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BULLETIN NO. 19

A HALF CENTURY OF
BIRD LIFE
IN BERKS COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

BY

EARL L. POOLE

READING, PENNSYLVANIA
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NORTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER



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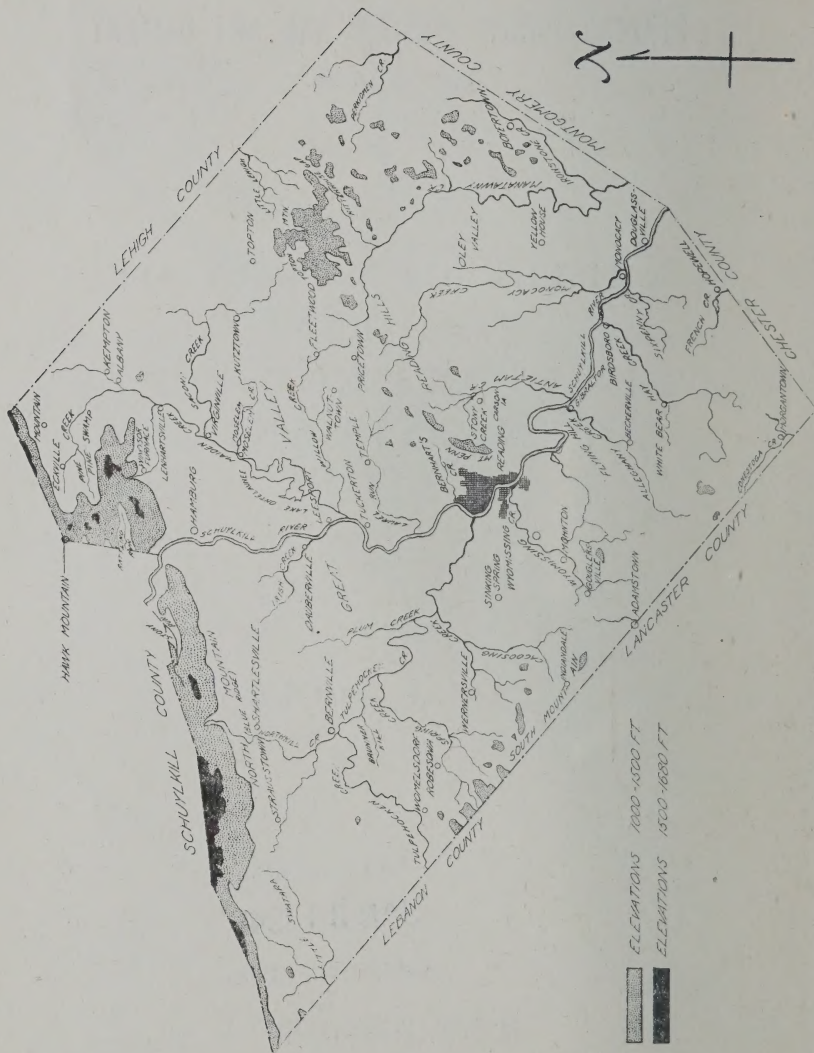
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INTRODUCTION

The area covered by this annotated list is the County of Berks, in southeastern Pennsylvania. It is mainly in the watershed of the Schuylkill River, at its nearest point some forty-five miles above tide-water. Berks County is roughly diamond-shaped, with the long axis extending east and west, and embraces about 920 square miles. The main topographical features all run from northeast to southwest, and are, in their turn from the northwestern boundary: First, the so-called "Blue-Ridge," "North Mountain," or more properly, the Kittatinny Range, the crest of which forms the entire northwestern boundary line, and attains at points an elevation of almost 1700 feet. It is almost entirely forested.

Then follows the broad, rolling "Great Valley," which covers nearly half the entire area of the county and averages about 400 feet in elevation. This is a rich agricultural section, and is closely cultivated in its entirety.

Finally, in the southeastern half are the scattered South Mountains or Reading Hills, which are wooded, but interspersed here and there with rolling valleys equally as intensively cultivated as the Great Valley.

The highest points of the South Mountain system do not exceed 1280 feet in altitude; most of them are much lower. The largest valley of those in the southern hill region is that drained by the Manatawny and Monocacy Creeks, and known as the Oley Valley.

Situated both in the Carolinian and Alleghanian life zones, Berks presents many interesting examples of the overlapping ranges of birds typical of these faunas.

Of the Carolinian species, the Turkey Vulture, Louisiana Water-Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Cardinal, Barn Owl, and Rough-winged Swallow appear to breed over the entire county wherever suitable conditions are found, while the Fish Crow is apparently absent only from the Blue Moun-

tain region. The latter species appears to have come into the region in recent years as it was unknown to the older collectors and students.

The Blue-winged Warbler is a common breeder in the South Mountain ridges, but has not been known to nest on the Blue Mountain. Of the other Carolinian species inhabiting the county, the Carolina Wren is erratic in occurrence. A severe winter will often practically exterminate it throughout the area, but during its periods of greatest abundance it is quite common along the Schuylkill Valley to the southeast. It does, however, occur with some regularity along the Blue Ridge. The Kentucky Warbler is restricted to the more humid wooded valleys of the lower Schuylkill tributaries, and the Acadian Flycatcher was formerly found in the same region, although it has apparently vanished as a breeder in recent years.

The Tufted Titmouse is regularly found along practically all of the larger wooded streams.

Of the Alleghanian species the Least Flycatcher, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Rose-breasted Grosbeak breed in suitable localities over the entire county, and the Bobolink and Wilson's Thrush have been noticed in June as far south as Monacaey and Birdsboro.

The Golden-winged Warbler is a rare breeder along the Kittatinny Ridge, while the Black-throated Green Warbler is common enough in the few remaining stands of White Pine and Hemlock that exist in the same region.

An altogether unexpected Canadian element is evidenced by the occurrence in Summer along the Blue Mountains, of the Canadian, Magnolia, and Nashville Warblers, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, the Alder Flycatcher, Junco and White-throated Sparrow. A surprising zoogeographical anomaly is the occurrence together, as breeders, of the Canadian and Hooded Warblers, the latter usually considered a Caro-

linian species, in certain ravines in the Blue Mountain region. Both species are equally common along Rattling Run on the north slope of the Ridge.

In the present list I have endeavored to condense the results of thirty years of active field work and association with others who have been engaged in the same pleasant avocation. It has therefore been necessary to attempt to cover, in a few brief sentences, facts and experiences that could often be extended over several paragraphs or pages. My notes have attained the rather formidable bulk of five sizable volumes, and contain notations covering nearly 3000 days in the field. The length of these trips varied from a couple of hours in the morning to entire days.

In contrast to the long line of ornithologists and serious students who have made the adjoining Counties of Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia, Montgomery, Lancaster and others in southeastern Pennsylvania doubtless among the most historical regions, ornithologically, in the country, Berks has received but little notice in ornithological literature. This may seem the more remarkable since it was the birthplace of several eminent men of science, many of whom, however, early sought other fields. Walter J. Hoffman and Spencer F. Baird were among the most prominent of these.

Wm. S. Baird, a brother to the father of the Smithsonian Institution and a former Mayor of Reading, is said to have collected some local birds many years ago. These were for some time in the possession of the Reading Society of Natural Sciences, which disbanded in 1883, when many of them came to the High School for Boys, where all the labels were carefully removed. No doubt some of Baird's specimens are now in the Reading Public Museum.

John F. Hofmann, an active student and collector of the old school, compiled a local list about 1890 and left a few very creditably mounted specimens of local birds, some of

which are still in the Reading Museum, but unfortunately, without data. It is understood that all species listed by Hofmann were actually collected by him.

D. Frank Keller and B. H. Graves contributed some local data to Dr. Warren at the time of the publication of his "Birds of Pennsylvania" in 1890.

Christopher H. Shearer, the artist, collected a few of the water birds about the years 1885-95 in the neighborhood of his Tuckerton studio.

The only existing collection of any size, however, is that formed by the late Dr. Levi W. Mengel between the years 1884-1900. Upon reexamination this collection contains a number of specimens that were incorrectly identified, but which prove to be of considerable local interest, and in some cases may constitute our only state records of such species as the Western Snowy Plover and the Greater Redpoll.

More recently, Mr. W. H. Leibelsperger of Fleetwood has taken an active interest in oology and has collected sets of some of our least known breeding species. Dr. Stanley Brunner of Krumsville has a fair series of local birds collected over a long period of years.

The present group of students living in Reading and comprising the membership of the Baird Ornithological Club, has amassed a wealth of data on the local migrations during the past few years, and the result of its work is doubtless of more interest today, since many changes have taken place during recent years in the character of the surrounding country, resulting in corresponding changes in the local avifauna. Certainly, some of the data from the older collections do not agree with recent experience.

In the past thirty years much of the remaining marshland has been drained and converted into pasture land; practically all of the fine large tracts of mature timber in the southern part of the country have been cut over, and

the Schuylkill River has been converted by deposits of culm from the coal fields, and waste oil from the factories along its banks, to a condition little better than an open sewer.

The advent of the automobile and the improvement of roads have opened up many of the secluded spots that were formerly havens of refuge for the shy and wilder birds, and have resulted in bungalow settlements springing up over a wide territory about Reading, while the thoughtless man with a gun has been enabled to ply his work of destruction more effectively.

Then the process of cleaning up the farms by removing the underbrush from the margins of grain fields, the cutting out of dead timber, and the close cultivation of the soil are continuing the process which the late Herman Strecker lamented so aptly, if cynically, in "It has cut me to the soul many times to see just such places burnt over, strewed with lime and plowed up to raise wheat to make bread, to keep the worthless souls in the worthless bodies of worthless beings which live and die without leaving the slightest vestige of a footprint on the sands of time."

In the immediate neighborhood of Reading the "improvements" of the past thirty years have brought about marked changes in the local distribution of birds. The "Hessian Camp," long one of the most productive spots within the city limits, has now been "developed," while the extensive and ever-productive woodland on the lower north-western slope of Mt. Penn has suffered a like fate, and awkward suburbs are creeping into the interesting little valleys in every direction.

The draining of swamps and marshes has eliminated most of the marsh birds. Only three years ago the marsh near Elverson, which provided the last known local nesting grounds of the Swamp Sparrow and Long-billed Marsh Wren, was drained and converted into pastures.

The introduction and increase of the European Starling is largely responsible for the marked decrease of several of our native species, notably the Bluebird, Purple Martin and Red-headed Woodpecker.

Even now, the portable saw-mill is eating into the beautiful hemlock- and pine-clad slopes of the northern Blue Mountain region, and the day may be not far distant when the few remaining stands will be entirely replaced by the scrubby second-growth that predominates elsewhere.

Recent years have witnessed but two events that have had marked beneficial effects on the bird life of the region. One was the building of the Maiden Creek Dam (Lake Ontelaunee) in 1929, and the other the establishment in 1934 of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

The first mentioned event created a body of water of some 200 acres, the largest body of still water within a radius of 50 miles of Reading. This has brought about conditions favorable to a number of species of water birds that were formerly regarded as rare or casual in the region. For the ensuing five years the water remained at a stationary level, with a series of marshy islands and mud flats at the head of the dam which formed easily the most interesting bird-hunting grounds for many miles around. In 1934, the dam breast was raised another 20 feet, and there followed a period, continuing up to 1944, during which the water has never maintained a uniform level during the summer or migration seasons, so that the various types of marsh that formerly attracted some of the more interesting marsh dwellers, were intermittently flooded and dried until anything like an acceptable marsh habitat was out of the question. The resulting larger body of water (1080 acres) has become even more attractive to transient waterfowl, which stop off, particularly during stormy weather, to rest, feed, and spend a few hours or days before continuing on their

journey. There is little reason to doubt that many of these birds normally pass unobserved over our area on their migrations, since such species as cormorants, scoters, swans, brant, snow geese, gulls, and others that are not usually expected to occur inland, have been detected on a number of occasions flying high overhead at Hawk Mountain, but it is chiefly during severe storms that they are forced down to seek shelter and ride out the storm. For many years I have attempted to visit Ontelaunee during the last stage of each severe storm; for it is only at such times that many of the rarer species may be expected. A delay of a few hours after the clearing of the storm will often find all the storm-battered wanderers on their way, and the water of the lake clear of birds.

At present writing (1946) a new policy is being followed, of filling in the remaining marshes, eliminating all shallows, and maintaining a constant water-level. What effect this will ultimately have on the bird life of the area remains to be seen. Thus far it has resulted in the total elimination of shorebirds and waders and the reduction of many species of shoal-water ducks. Perhaps no conditions will quite equal the 1929 level in attractiveness to bird life, even though certain stages of the 1934-1944 levels were nearly ideal for shorebirds during the exposure of extensive mud-flats and marshes for a brief period in late summer and early autumn while the water was at its lowest level.

The creation of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary has done much to attract numbers of bird students from all parts of the country to witness the fall hawk migration along the Kittatinny Ridge, which forms the northwestern boundary of the county.

With large numbers of observers stationed along the ridge daily throughout the three months of the fall migration a mass of records has been accumulated in the past

eight years, and a number of hitherto undetected species recorded. Prior to 1934, this locality formed one of the favorite points at which the local gunners gathered to slaughter the hawks that passed over during fall migration.

The following totals of the numbers of each species observed during each fall migration was published in the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association's fifth annual report in 1943. Many detailed reports of observations at this point have been published elsewhere.

Species	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Turkey Vulture	374	87	44	60	146	150	182	83
Eastern Goshawk	293	177	49	9	26	11	21	9
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4,237	4,486	4,817	3,113	8,529	2,407	3,909	3,203
Cooper's Hawk	553	474	492	204	590	166	416	292
Eastern Red-tailed Hawk	4,024	3,177	4,978	2,230	6,496	4,725	4,700	2,378
Northern Red-shouldered Hawk	181	153	163	143	314	149	198	120
Broad-winged Hawk	5,429	7,509	4,500	10,761	5,736	3,159	5,170	4,362
American Rough-legged Hawk	9	9	4	...	8	4	2	...
American Golden Eagle	66	54	73	31	83	72	55	35
Bald Eagle	67	70	38	37	64	38	50	71
Marsh Hawk	153	149	160	189	273	161	254	107
Osprey	169	205	201	124	174	91	201	213
White Gyrfalcon .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Black Gyrfalcon .....	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Duck Hawk	14	36	41	24	38	25	44	36
Pigeon Hawk	20	34	10	12	43	11	35	17
Eastern Sparrow Hawk	123	102	141	87	184	60	196	113
Unidentified	23	11	8	...	...	7	38	38
TOTALS	15,765	16,734	15,719	17,024	22,704	11,237	15,471	11,077

The writer wishes to express his obligation to Dr. David Berkheimer, Mr. Maurice Broun, Miss Anna P. Deeter, Mr. Stuart Dreibelbis, Mr. W. H. Leibelsperger, Dr. Levi W. Mengel, Mr. Harold Morris, Mr. Byron Nunemacher, and Mr. Ralph Yerger, who have generously allowed him the full use of their notes and data, also to the following for many interesting records that are included: Mr. Stanley Bright, Miss Mary Deeter, Mr. Harold Dietrich, Mr. Charles Fenstermacher, Rev. E. S. Frey, Mr. Samuel Guss, Miss Florence Hergesheimer, Mr. James Holzman, Mr. Paul Jensen, Miss Constance Kline, Mr. Richard Lawrence, Mr. Adam Leader, Mr. and Mrs. G. Henry Mengel, Mrs. John A. Nichols, Mr. Paul Martin, Mr. Oswell T. Reinhart, Mr. Conrad K. Roland, Mr. A. Lincoln Ruth, Mr. Alan G. Sternbergh, Mr. Arthur Sigman, Dr. Francis Trembley, Mr. Samuel Wishnieski, Mr. Lawrence Dillon, Mr. Francis Heine, Mr. Donald Holt, Mr. Elwood Manning, Mr. David Shaeffer and Mr. Hans Wilkens. The initials of all these observers follow the records for which they are responsible.

In the preparation of the present annotated list I have followed the policy of including only those species represented either by local specimens taken in the past 50 years, sight records of species identified by two or more competent observers, or those recently identified by a competent observer and supported by a local specimen or an old record.

All species represented by specimens taken more than fifty years ago, or sight records made by a single observer and unsupported by specimens are listed in smaller type, indicating that the inclusion of the species thus treated may be subject to some question. In this way I have sought to avoid to some extent the likelihood of error or criticism.

In nomenclature and arrangement I have followed the fourth, (1931), edition of the A.O.U. check list.

THE BEST BIRD LOCALITIES ABOUT READING

For bird students of comparatively little local experience, it may be well to include here a brief list of the localities that have proven most consistently productive. The letters W (winter), SP (spring), SU (summer), and F (fall) indicate the seasons when each place may prove most interesting.

- W., SP., SU., F. Lake Ontelaunee, along the Maidencreek and lower Moselem Valleys. (The only region where many water birds may be expected.)
- W., SP., SU., F. Hay Creek, from Birdsboro to White Bear. (A sheltered wooded valley, productive at all seasons.)
- W., SP., SU., F. The Hopewell Park region. (Similar to the last.)
- SU., F. The Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. (The best place to observe hawks and eagles during the fall migration.)
- W., SP., F. Museum Park and the lower Wyomissing Valley. (A list of over 180 species has been made in this limited suburban park.)
- SP., SU., F. Rattling Run, southeast from Port Clinton. (A favorable locality for breeding warblers.)
- SP., SU., F. Northkill Gap, north of Shartlesville.
- SP., SU., F. The Pine Swamp, along the north base of the Pinnacle.

Many other localities near Reading are almost equally as interesting at certain seasons, or are particularly favored by certain species, and may be covered in short walks. Such are the Carsonia Park region, the Antietam gorge at Stony Creek, Charles Evans Cemetery and the Tulpehocken Valley, along the old Union Canal towpath, especially above Charming Forge, and the lower Allegheny Creek, above Gibraltar.

COMMON LOON, *Gavia immer immer* (Brünnich)

A tolerably common transient on the larger ponds, much more frequently observed in spring than fall. Most often seen at Lake Ontelaunee or flying over Hawk Mountain during the fall migration. The largest number that I have ever seen locally at one time was 150 observed on April 17, 1945 at Lake Ontelaunee, although about 200 flew over Hawk Mountain within a few hours on November 11, 1942, (M.B., E.P., etc.). There are many spring observations between March 18 (1936) and May 25 (1940). Fall records are between October 4 (1937) and December 8 (1946). Several specimens have been taken.

**RED-THROATED LOON**, *Gavia stellata* (Pontoppidan)

A rather rare transient, both spring and fall. Casual in winter. All recent records follow:

Nov. 6,	1926	One alighted in a cornfield near Leesport. It was captured by some small boys and confined in a poultry pen, dying two days later. This specimen is now in the Reading Museum.	
Nov. 16-19,	1930	Lake Ontelaunee	B.N. & E.P.
Nov. 10,	1932	" "	E. Poole
Nov. 17,	1935	" " (2 seen)	E. Poole
Nov. 13,	1937	" "	H.Y.P. & E.P.
Dec. 24,	1938	" "	B.N., H.P. & E.P.
Mar. 22,	1942	" "	E.P.
Mar. 27,	1942	Antietam	P.J.
May 12,	1943	Lake Ontelaunee (5)	E.P.
Apr. 2,	1945	" "	E.P.

It was listed as occurring in the County by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

HOLBOELL'S GREBE, *Colymbus grisegena holboelli* (Reinhardt)

A rather rare transient on the larger ponds in late winter and spring. I know of but one fall observation.

March 21, 1923	Bernhart's Reservoir		R.H. & E.L.P.
Feb. 26-27, 1930	Lake Ontelaunee		B.N. & E.P.
April 20-22, 1930	" "	(4)	B.N. & E.P.
April 6-7, 1934	" "	(5)	E.P.
March 12, 1936	" "		E.P.
March 28, 1936	" "		E.P.
March 21-			
April 11, 1937	" "	(3 on Mar. 21)	E.P.
April 20-22, 1939	" "		C.M., H.P. & E.P.
April 2-9, 1940	" "		E.P.
May 16-21, 1940	" "		E.P.
October 2, 1940	" "		E.P.



HORNED GREBE, *Colymbus auritus* Linnaeus

A transient on ponds and larger streams. Occasionally large numbers alight on the larger ponds during storms, as on April 21, 1929, when 250 were observed on Lake Ontelaunee. Single individuals wintered successfully at Lake Ontelaunee during the winters of 1931-32 and 1937-38. The earliest bona fide spring transient record is March 26, 1937, the latest, May 15, (1937).

The earliest fall observation is Sept. 21, (1936, B.N.). There are several December records, but comparatively few later than November 19.

PIED-BILLED GREBE, *Podilymbus podiceps podiceps* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient on ponds and larger streams. There are many local records ranging from March 12 (1930) to May 23 (1937). During the latter year several pairs acted as though they wished to nest on Lake Ontelaunee, but the lowering of the water-level apparently caused them to leave.

Late summer and fall records are between July 7, (1929) and December 8, (1946).

LEACH'S PETREL, *Oceanodroma leucorhoa leucorhoa* (Vieillot)

Casual. On August 24, 1933, following an unusually severe northeaster, at least twelve were on Lake Ontelaunee, (E.P.). The same day five were seen on Angelica Dam and one on the Schuylkill nearby (S.W.). Another was captured in a garage near Front and Walnut Streets, Reading. On the twenty-fifth two more were brought to the Reading Museum in an exhausted and starving condition. These had been captured in Hamburg and West Reading.

Wilson's Petrel, *Oceanites oceanicus* (Kuhl)

Two of this species previously reported as occurring with the influx of Leach's Petrels on August 24, 1933, had better be regarded as doubtful until local specimens are available, although I am reasonably certain that these birds were correctly identified. (E.P.)

White Pelican, *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* Gmelin

Walter H. Leibelsperger reported one seen on a dam at Moselem Springs about 1892.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax auritus auritus* (Lesson)

A rather rare transient. Most of the observations were made at Lake Ontelaunee, although a flock of 35 was seen flying over Hawk Mountain on October 8, 1937, (M.B. & E.P.).

Ten spring observations range between April 17, (1945) and May 31, (1940). Fourteen fall observations range between October 3, (1939) and November 13, (1937).



GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias herodias* Linnaeus

A fairly common transient, recorded during every month. It is most abundant from late March until early in May and from mid-July through September.

AMERICAN EGRET, *Casmerodius albus egretta* (Gmelin)

Formerly very rare, now a regular summer visitant from the south. First noted in 1920, it returned in 1923, again in 1925 and has been seen every year since. As many as 40 have been counted along the shores of Lake Ontelaunee in a single day, (July 26, 1936).

The earliest arrival date is April 29, 1945 (I. Weigley), and the latest date of departure, November 21, (1937).

Louisiana Heron, *Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis* (Gosse)

Reported by D. Frank Keller, of Reading. (Warren. B. of Pa., 1890.)

SNOWY EGRET, *Leucophoyx thúla thúla* (Molina)

Very rare or casual. The only recent occurrences are two birds seen at Moselem from Sept. 5 to 12, 1937, by Julian Potter, C. K. Roland, Anna and Mary Deeter, Florence Hergesheimer, B. Nunemacher and E. Poole, and one seen at the same place on August 17, 1944, (E.P.).

It was formerly reported from Berks County by John F. Hofmann and D. Frank Keller (1890).

LITTLE BLUE HERON, *Florida caerulea caerulea* (Linnaeus)

Formerly an uncommon summer visitant from the south, of late it has become much more frequent in occurrence, although not reported in 1928, 1934, and 1940. During some seasons it appears in considerable numbers about secluded ponds, and flocks of from 35 to 50 have roosted along the Moselem dam. Most individuals are in white immature plumage, adults being comparatively rare.

Nearly all local records are between July 4 (1929-1930) and September 29 (1935), although I have two spring observations; May 12, 1929 and April 26, (1939).

EASTERN GREEN HERON, *Butorides virescens virescens* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident. Spring arrivals range from March 25 (1916) to May 8 (1927). Average, 23 years, April 24. Latest fall record October 17 (1920).

Of twelve sets of eggs in the Mengel collection the earliest was taken April 30 (1887), the latest, June 17 (1885).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli* (Gmelin)

A common summer resident, nesting locally. Occasional in winter. Spring arrival dates, when not known to winter, are from March 27 (1935) to May 8 (1920). A pair wintered near Lake Ontelaunee, 1931-1932, and individuals remained in the Museum Park until December 11, 1936 and January 1, 1940. Rookeries of this species formerly existed near Lenhartsville and at Moselem, the latter until 1904. More recently a colony of some size nested in the pines on the Nolde Estate in Cumru Township. This consisted of

75 nests in 1938. It was disturbed by local boys and raided by crows until finally abandoned in 1939.

In 1935 I visited another rookery along the Schuylkill near Douglasville. This consisted of about 150 nests. The following year the grove in which these birds nested was cut over, and the birds moved upstream. In 1943 this rookery had again moved; this time to an island near Birdsboro, and had greatly diminished in size. In 1946 a colony of about 40 pairs nested on the Lake Ontelaunee refuge.

Eleven sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between April 28 and June 1.



AMERICAN BITTERN, *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Montagu)

Fairly common transient; formerly bred. Spring observations are between March 27 (1938, D.B., B.N.) and May 23 (1926, A.D., F.H.).

Fall records are between July 28 (1936) and Nov. 16 (1930).

A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken near Bernville, May 24, 1890. A specimen dated June 5, 1887, is in the same collection.

EASTERN LEAST BITTERN, *Ixobrychus exilis exilis* (Gmelin)

A rare transient; formerly bred, and may still do so, but easily overlooked. The only recent records follow:

May 20, 1922	Moselem	S.B. & E.P.
Oct. 3, 1929	Lake Ontelaunee	B.N. & E.P.
May 22, 1932	" "	E.P.
Aug. 11-18, 1935	Moselem	E.P.
Aug. 3, 1944	Wyomissing Creek at Shillington	E.P.

Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken as follows:

Exeter, May 6, 1888; Blue Marsh, June 1, 1887.

Three sets of eggs in the same collection bear the following data:

Blue Marsh, May 24, 1890; Rockland, May 23, 1899; Willow Creek, June 8, 1890.

WOOD IBIS, *Mycteria americana* Linnaeus

A rare straggler from the south. On November 11, 1921, Dr. Stanley Brunner of Krumsville received a specimen that had been found dead in Albany Township. I saw this bird in the flesh.

MUTE SWAN, *Cygnus olor* (Gmelin)

Introduced. The source of local specimens is problematic, since these birds frequently escape from domestication. Several feral colonies have been reported in the region about New York City. On May 12, 1929, one appeared on Lake Ontelaunee, and later the same day was reported from Angelica Dam, where it remained for over a week. Another appeared on Lake Ontelaunee on April 9, 1932, (E.P.); and still another at the same place, November 17, 1940, (B.N. and A.D.). Two were reported flying over West Lawn on July 11, 1945.

WHISTLING SWAN, *Cygnus columbianus* (Ord)

A rather frequent transient on Lake Ontelaunee, where one wintered during 1938-1939; and occasionally seen migrating over Hawk Mountain in fall. Single birds or flocks up to 52 in number have alighted on the dam, and sometimes remained for several weeks. I have twenty-two spring observations between March 6, (1939) and April 9, (1940); and ten fall records from October 24, (1937) to November 20, (1931), in addition to frequent observations of the individual that wintered in 1938-39.

**CANADA GOOSE**, *Branta canadensis canadensis* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient, frequently alighting on the larger bodies of water or on meadows to feed, but usually noticed as clamoring wedges and lines drift majestically overhead, heralding the changing seasons. We have records from Lake Ontelaunee during every month of the year. A small flock wintered during 1931-1932, and an individual spent the summers of 1939 and 1944. Most spring records are between January 29 and May 16; fall observations between October 6 and December 24. Some of the smaller subspecies of *canadensis* have been reported by observers at Hawk Mountain in the fall, but since no local specimens have been taken; their identity must remain uncertain.

AMERICAN BRANT, *Branta bernicla hrota* (Müller)

A rare transient. One visited Lake Ontelaunee after a severe storm on November 10, 1932 (E.P.). On November

18, 1936, a flock of 15, and on November 9, 1938, one of 225 flew over Hawk Mountain (M.B.). On October 21, 1939, eleven were observed at the same place (M. B.). According to Warren (B. of Pa. 1890) "Mr. D. Frank Keller of Reading, Pa., has a specimen which was captured in Berks County."

GREATER SNOW GOOSE, *Chen hyperborea atlantica* Kennard

A rare transient. On October 12, 1936, a flock of 9 and on October 30, 1938, one of 26 flew south over Hawk Mountain. These were identified by Maurice Brown and many other competent observers who were on the lookout. A single bird, probably of this race, remained on Lake Ontelaunee from November 12, 1938 until January 1, 1939. This was also seen by practically all of the local students, D.B., A. & M.D., B.N., C.M., C.R., S.D., H.P., E.P., etc. From February 2 to April 13, 1946, two were seen at the latter place by many local observers. Compared with the Canada and Blue geese that were present at the time these were certainly of this subspecies.

BLUE GOOSE, *Chen caerulescens* (Linnaeus)

Casual. An immature bird of this species accompanied the last mentioned Snow Geese at Lake Ontelaunee, but was probably overlooked until the molt had advanced far enough to determine its identity. It was first definitely recognized on April 13, 1946, (J.H., P.J., E.M., E.P., D.B., B.N.).

MALLARD, *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos* Linnaeus

Resident, formerly an uncommon transient, but now increasing and breeding in the neighborhood of Lake Ontelaunee, where it is second only to the Black Duck in abundance. In late fall and early spring it is frequently possible to count more than a thousand birds on the lake. At Moselem during the past two years I have found nests and seen downy young on numerous occasions.

COMMON BLACK DUCK, *Anas rubripes* Brewster

An abundant resident about Lake Ontelaunee, and frequent on streams and marshes elsewhere throughout the country. During migrations as many as five thousand of this species may often be seen on the Lake. Nests and young are often found about the marshes of Peter's Creek, Moselem and similar favorable spots.

GADWALL, *Chaulelasmus streperus* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon transient and winter resident at Lake Ontelaunee, and on smaller ponds and streams nearby. I have thirty-two records between October 14 (1932) and May 30 (1939), of from single birds to a group of ten.

**EUROPEAN WIDGEON**, *Marcca penelope* (Linnaeus)

A rare transient and winter visitant about Lake Ontelaunee and the Moselem dams, from one to three drakes being seen at a time. So far as I am aware, no one has succeeded in identifying the females in our region. All records are listed.

1937 May 8 Lake Ontelaunee. E.P.

1939 Feb. 6 to March 26, one to three at the same place. C.M., S.G., E.P., etc.

Oct. 28, 29, Nov. 1-25, one at the same place. H. Beck, E.P., etc.

1940 Feb. 4 to March 24 Moselem. A. Conway, Gordon, E.P., etc.

1942 Jan. 17-Feb. 1, one at Moselem.

- 1942 Nov. 8 one at Lake Ontelaunee. E.P.
 1943 Feb. 1, March 9 one at Moselem. E.P.
 1944 Jan. 2, Feb. 19 Lake Ontelaunee. H.M., E.P.
 1944 Dec. 16 to April 22, 1945. Moselem and Lake Ontelaunee.
 J.B. & E.P.
 1947 Jan. 4-18, Moselem and Lake Ontelaunee. P.J., E.P.

BALDPATE, *Mareca americana* (Gmelin)

Formerly rare. Now a common transient and winter resident at Lake Ontelaunee, and on nearby ponds and streams. Normally present from September 4 (1936) to May 23 (1937). A single drake was observed through the summer of 1931. Even during severe winters, when the Lake remains frozen for months at a time, a few individuals manage to exist in the spring-fed streams nearby, returning to the frozen dam during the day to rest.

AMERICAN PINTAIL, *Dafila acuta tsitsihoa* (Vieillot)

A common transient and regular winter resident on the larger ponds and streams. During exceptionally severe winters the Pintail may be absent for a few weeks, but it is apparently able to withstand the rigors of an ordinary winter in this region. I know of no observations between May 23 (1937) and August 9 (1929).

EUROPEAN TEAL, *Nettion crecca* (Linnaeus)

Unknown prior to 1938, during several recent winters one or more individuals have paid prolonged visits to the Lake Ontelaunee and Moselem regions, mingling with the Green-winged Teal.

1938, Feb. 3-March 6	Peters' Creek	M.B., E.F., E.P.
1939, March 1-March 26	Moselem	
1940, Jan. 22 to March 7	Peters' Creek	(2 on Feb. 4)
1942, Jan. 17	Moselem	H.P. & E.P.
1943, Dec. 4	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.

In March, 1939, a drake that combined the distinctive markings of *crecca* and *carolinense*, was seen on a number

of occasions. Upon going over a number of skins of both species I am led to regard this as a probable hybrid.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL, *Nettion carolinense* (Gmelin)

A common transient and winter resident at Lake Ontelaunee and Moselem; occasional elsewhere. A few individuals or pairs remain through the summer, but we have no definite evidence that they breed here.

When not known to have been present throughout the summer, transients return from August 21 (1940) to October 18 (1931). Departure dates are between April 18 (1930) and May 9 (1937).



BLUE-WINGED TEAL, *Querquedula discors* (Linnaeus)

A common transient and occasional breeder. Between 1930 and 1940 a few pairs bred each year at Lake Ontelaunee. Occasionally individuals winter. When not known to winter they return between March 8 (1939) and March 29 (1940), and are last seen from September 8 (1935) to October 23 (1932). On May 17, 1933, David Berkheimer and I saw a nest containing ten eggs on an island on Lake Ontelaunee, and one or more broods of downy young have been seen on numerous occasions, although the draining of the Peter's Creek marsh, (1942) has evidently again eliminated it as a breeder.

SHOVELLER, *Spatula clypeata* (Linnaeus)

Formerly a rare transient, now frequent about Lake Ontelaunee and the nearby ponds, where occasional individuals sometimes winter.

On December 11, 1927, during a sleet storm, a drake Shoveller joined the tame ducks at the Reading Museum and remained with them until July 1929. It became very tame and was apparently perfectly contented among its adopted friends.

When not wintering it is usually one of the earliest species to arrive, sometimes putting in an appearance as early as February 4 (1940). During late May 1940, at least one pair was noticed wandering in the fields some distance from Lake Ontelaunee, as though looking for a suitable nesting place, fully a month after the usual departure date of the species. At this time the water level was lowered and the birds were not seen again until August 15, although this species does not ordinarily put in its fall appearance until October, (October 3, 1929).

WOOD DUCK, *Aix sponsa* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon transient in spring and fall, and rare summer resident, in secluded spots along the larger streams. My earliest arrival date is February 25 (1930), and the latest departure, November 26, 1939. Two at Lake Ontelaunee, Jan. 18, 1947, P.J. and E. P.

Mr. Arthur Sigman found a nest containing nine eggs near Joanna about the middle of May 1940, and stated that Wood Ducks nested nearby in 1939. Semi-domesticated birds, offspring of those at the Museum Park, nested for several years along the Wyomissing Creek.

This is the one species that has shown no sign of increasing since Lake Ontelaunee came into being, in fact it apparently becomes more rare from year to year.

REDHEAD, *Nyroca americana* (Eyton)

An uncommon transient at Lake Ontelaunee. Very rare on the other large ponds and streams. There are 45 spring records between February 4 (1940) and April 6 (1939). Nineteen fall records are between October 3 (1937) and November 30 (1929). Redheads usually arrive in small groups. I have never seen more than 8 at one time.

RING-NECKED DUCK, *Nyroca collaris* (Donovan)

A common transient and occasional winter resident at Lake Ontelaunee; rare elsewhere. When not wintering it is one of the first species to arrive in spring. Earliest fall arrival, October 8 (1937); last departure date, May 26 (1934). It has wintered during two seasons, and when not known to winter, has appeared as early as January 30 (1932).

**CANVASBACK, *Nyroca valisineria* (Wilson)**

A rather common transient at Lake Ontelaunee in spring, less regular in fall. Single birds have been seen throughout the winter months. Rare elsewhere. One spent the period between Jan. 18 and Feb. 21, 1929, on the pond in the Museum Park. Earliest fall arrival October 18 (1932 and 1936); latest spring observation, May 9 (1937).

GREATER SCAUP DUCK, *Nyroca marila* (Linnaeus)

A rather common transient and occasional winter resident at Lake Ontelaunee—uncommon on the ponds and larger streams elsewhere. Earliest fall arrival, October 28

(1937), latest spring departure, May 10 (1934) (June 10, 1939).

The difficulty of satisfactorily distinguishing this and the following species may have caused some errors in identification, but on the whole this is much less common than *affinis*.

A specimen taken near Reading, November 30, 1890, is in the L. W. Mengel collection.

LESSER SCAUP DUCK, *Nyroca affinis* (Eyton)

A common transient. Occasional individuals are seen in winter, and one remained on the Schuylkill near Tuckerton from June 16 to October 2, 1923 (S. Bright). Another was noted near Dreibelbis, July 11, 1942—E.P. Earliest fall arrival, October 10 (1937). Latest spring departure, June 26 (1939).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE, *Glauconetta clangula americana* (Bonaparte)

A tolerably common transient on the larger ponds and streams; rarely remaining through the winter.

Earliest fall arrival, October 28 (1938); latest departure in spring, May 6 (1934).

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken October 14, 1888.

BUFFLE-HEAD, *Charitonetta albeola* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon transient and occasional winter visitant. A specimen in the Reading Museum collection was taken along the Schuylkill on August 10, 1930 (S.W.). Earliest fall arrival, October 29 (1939), latest spring departure, May 9 (1940). On April 22, 1939, a flock of 250 alighted on Lake Ontelaunee during a severe storm, but ordinarily this species is seen in small groups up to 20 in number.



OLD-SQUAW, *Clangula hyemalis* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient in April and early May and again in November, at Lake Ontelaunee; stray individuals may occur through the winter whenever there is open water. My earliest fall arrival date is October 22 (1938), latest spring departure, May 16 (1937) and 1940.

Like the last, this species usually appears singly or in small groups, but during the remarkable storm of April 22, 1939, over 300 alighted on Lake Ontelaunee.

EASTERN HARLEQUIN DUCK, *Histrionicus histrionicus histrionicus* (Linnaeus)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER, *Melanitta deglandi* (Bonaparte)

An uncommon transient at Lake Ontelaunee. In fall occasional flocks have been seen flying over Hawk Mountain.

I have eleven spring records between April 7 (1933) and May 22 (1942) and thirteen fall records between October 1 (1933) and December 6 (1931). The largest flock recorded locally was 30 seen on April 22, 1939.

As with all the Scoters, this species usually arrives with storms, and departs immediately afterward.

SURF SCOTER, *Melanitta perspicillata* (Linnaeus)

A rare transient. The only records of which I am aware are: a pair seen on Lake Ontelaunee, April 22, 1930; a female at Weiser Lake, December 12, 1932; and another female at Lake Ontelaunee, May 16, 1942. The first and last of these observations were entirely satisfactory. A male was seen at Moselem, March 10, 1946. (D.B., B.N.)

AMERICAN SCOTER, *Oidemia americana* Swainson

A rare transient. All recent records follow:

October 3, 1937	Four at Lake Ontelaunee (D.B., S.G., B.N.E.P.)
October 31, 1937	Eight at Lake Ontelaunee (A.D., M.D., F.H.)
October 17, 1939	Nineteen at Hawk Mountain (M.B.)
May 9, 1940	Two at Lake Ontelaunee (E.P.)
May 16, 1940	One at Lake Ontelaunee (E.P.)
May 22, 1942	One at Lake Ontelaunee (E.P.)

A specimen in the Reading Museum collection was taken by John Giles, near Reading, in January, 1890.

RUDDY DUCK, *Erismatura jamaicensis rubida* (Wilson)

A tolerably common transient on the larger ponds and streams.

Spring dates are between April 4 (1922) and May 16 (1940).

Fall records are between September 28 (1946) and December 4 (1935).

Casual dates are July 22-29, 1939, and February 4, 1939, at Lake Ontelaunee.

HOODED MERGANSER, *Lophodytes cucullatus* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient and irregular visitant, summer and winter, at Lake Ontelaunee and on the larger streams. Very rare previous to 1922, it has since become much more frequent, and has been seen during every month except July.

Most of the Spring dates are between March 1 (1936 and 1937) and May 28 (1937).

Most of the fall and winter records are between September (1941), and January 14 (1939). There are also several records of females and young during June and August, but to date no definite local breeding records are known. One came to the Museum lake on September 22, 1941. It was later joined by another, and the two remained until March 8, 1942.



AMERICAN MERGANSER, *Mergus merganser americanus* Cassin

A common winter visitant on the larger streams and ponds, remaining as long as open water can be found. It arrives between October 20 (1940) and November 22 (1936), and may leave anytime between April 7 (1940) and May 28 (1937). An exceptional arrival date is August 26, 1944. (Lake Ontelaunee E.P.)

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER, *Mergus serrator* Linnaeus

An irregular transient, fairly common on Lake Ontelaunee some seasons and scarce or apparently absent during others. Occasionally flocks of as many as 120 are seen on the Lake, as on March 30, 1939. Spring dates are between March 25 (1930) and June 13 (1933). Fall observations are from October 20 (1935) and December 6 (1931). I have one casual summer observation, August 10, 1940.

TURKEY VULTURE, *Cathartes aura septentrionalis* Wied

A tolerably common summer resident. A few individuals sometimes winter in the county. A specimen shot near Hopewell, January 1, 1937 is in the Reading Museum, and I found at least 30 roosting in an isolated pine in the Hopewell Park area on February 17, of the same year. These were said to have roosted in the same tree through that winter. On January 24, 1942, two were seen along the Blue Mountain between Shartlesville and Strausstown (E.P.).

Probable arrival dates range from February 6 (1938) to April 10 (1921); average, 24 years, March 16.

Departure, September 26 (1926) to November 21 (1937).

Nests have been found in the Irish Mountains, near Fleetwood, (May 2, 1908); at Pulpit Rock in the Blue Mountains near Lenhartsville (May 5, 1907) L.W.M.; and at Pikeville, (May 15, 1904 and May 8, 1907) W.H.L. and near Fritztown, April 7-May 5, 1932. (R. Seibert)

EASTERN GOSHAWK, *Astur atricapillus atricapillus* (Wilson)

A rather rare winter visitant, most frequently seen at Hawk Mountain during the fall migrations. 1927 and 1935 were years of comparative abundance, 293 being counted at Hawk Mountain in the fall of the latter year, when they appeared as early as October 6. My latest record for the county is March 29, 1936.

It was rated "A rare winter visitor" by D. F. Keller. (Warren, 1890.)



SHARP-SHINNED HAWK, *Accipiter striatus velox* (Wilson)

Resident. Comparatively rare in winter, uncommon in summer, tolerably common in spring and fall.

The spring migration is accomplished in March and April, while the fall movement is from late August to early in November, when this is one of the commonest species along the Kittatinny Ridge. I have personally seen over 1600 in a single day at this point.

We have eighteen sets of eggs taken in all parts of the county, between May 15 (1886-1924) and June 7 (1910) in the collections of W. H. Leibelsperger and L. W. Mengel.

COOPER'S HAWK, *Accipiter cooperi* (Bonaparte)

Resident. Rather common at all seasons. After the Sparrow Hawk, it is our commonest breeding hawk, and at Hawk Mountain, during the fall migration, is the fifth species in point of abundance, after the Broad-winged, Sharp-shinned, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered species.

It nests in all parts of the county, often in rather small woodlots. Twenty-one sets of eggs have been collected

locally by Dr. Mengel between April 17 (1887) and May 30 (1896). W. H. Leibelsperger and the writer have also found a number of nests; on two occasions, within the city limits of Reading. A nest containing four young, just ready to fly, was found by Morris, Nunemacher and Poole at Mountain, on June 29, 1924.



EASTERN RED-TAILED HAWK, *Buteo borealis borealis*
(Gmelin)

A common winter resident; formerly a permanent resident. I have not seen it earlier than August 1, (1942), nor later than May 25 (1940), but there is a set of eggs in the Mengel collection, taken in Albany Township, May 11, 1886, and Maurice Broun reported two birds seen through the nesting season at Hawk Mountain, June, 1946.

It is one of three most abundant species seen at Hawk Mountain in the fall, over seven hundred sometimes passing that point in a single day, as on October 31, 1937.

During the winter it is the common large hawk of the open meadow country, where it is often a conspicuous object in the winter landscape; owing its comparative abundance to its hard-earned ability to correctly judge the range of the ever-ready shotgun.



NORTHERN RED-SHOULDERED HAWK, *Buteo lineatus lineatus* (Gmelin)

A fairly common winter resident; formerly, at least, a permanent resident. It usually disappears about the third week in April, but there are enough scattering records through late May, June, and August to leave a strong suspicion that it may still nest in the county.

Two local sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken in Albany Township, May 3 (1886) and near Evansville, May 29 (1897).

At Hawk Mountain it is about fourth in point of abundance during the fall migration.



BROAD-WINGED HAWK, *Buteo platypterus platypterus*
(Vieillot)

A fairly common summer resident, increasing during the migrations.

Spring arrival between April 14 (1928) and May 2 (1932-1938); average, 19 years, April 23. Charles Berck of Fleetwood shot one on March 29, 1927.

My latest fall record is October 1 (1921 and 1933). On certain days, usually in the third week in September, thousands of these Hawks are to be observed at Hawk Mountain and other points along the Blue Ridge.

W. H. Leibelsperger has found eleven nests with eggs about Fleetwood and Moselem between May 8 (1902) and May 30 (1919), and a set in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken April 30, 1886. S. D. Green and I found an occupied nest at Monocacy Hill, on May 26, 1917, and Edward Hill photographed one within the Reading City limits, on the northwest slope of Mt. Penn during June, 1942.

AMERICAN ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, *Buteo lagopus s.*

Johannis (Gmelin)

A rather rare winter visitant. During the winter of 1934-1935 several Rough-legs wintered on the city watershed at Lake Ontelaunee, one remaining until May 5. During this winter the Meadow mice were particularly abundant and did a great deal of damage to the trees.

It is one of the rarest species at Hawk Mountain, in the fall, where it has been noticed as early as October 12, 1934, (M.B.).

GOLDEN EAGLE, *Aquila chrysaëtos canadensis* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon fall transient and rare winter visitant. Formerly regarded as very rare, intensive observations at Hawk Mountain during the past ten seasons have proven that this fine bird is a not uncommon transient along the Kittatinny Ridge in fall. Indeed, during some seasons it closely approaches the Bald Eagle in numbers, seven or eight individuals sometimes passing in the course of a day, and sixty-six were recorded in the fall of 1935. At Lake Ontelaunee individuals have wintered on five occasions, from December 26, 1938, to April 7, 1939, from January 7 to March 9, 1940, from December 27, 1942 to April 23, 1943, November 29, 1943 to April 22, 1944, and from December 9, 1944 to March 24, 1945.

Fall migration dates at Hawk Mountain range from September 15 (1935) to December 15 (1934).

There are three local specimens in the Reading Museum collection taken from gunners by the Game protectors. These were taken as follows:

Finland, Bucks County, just over the County Line, Nov., 1924

Eckville, Nov. 10, 1931

Blue Mts. above Shartlesville, Oct. 21, 1936

Another, shot at Topton, October 25, 1920, is in Library at the Kutztown State Teachers' College.



SOUTHERN BALD EAGLE, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common visitant throughout the year at Lake Ontelaunee, and in fall along the Kittatinny Ridge; occasional elsewhere. We have records for every month of the year. During the winter of 1938-39 at least five immature birds wintered at Lake Ontelaunee, and 70 were counted at Hawk Mountain during the fall migration of 1936. Probably the nearest nesting place is along the Susquehanna at Mt. Johnston Island, Lancaster County.

MARSH HAWK, *Circus cyaneus hudsonius* (Linnaeus)

Resident, commonest during migrations, from August to December; and from late March until May; less frequent in midwinter and during the breeding season.

I know of no recent definite nesting records, although Mr. W. H. Leibelsperger had a nest evidently of this species described to him by a farmer in the Pine Swamp, in Albany Township, in 1913, and Mr. Herbert Diehl found a pair present through the summer of 1939 in a boggy section of the State Game lands on top of the Blue Mountains above

Shartlesville. He was under the impression that they were breeding. Three sets of eggs in the Mengel collection bear the following data: May 12, 1886, Tulpehocken Creek; May 13, 1886, Antietam Creek; May 17, 1889, Moselem.



OSPREY, *Pandion haliaëtus carolinensis* (Gmelin)

A fairly common transient, usually seen about the larger ponds and streams. Occasional individuals remain through the summer.

Spring arrival, March 22 (1938) to April 27 (1919).

Fall departure, September 15 (1934) to November 2 (1941).

WHITE GYRFALCON, *Falco rusticolus candicans* Gmelin

A very rare transient. Maurice Broun reported one observed at Hawk Mountain on November 2, 1934, and I saw a light gray individual that should probably be referred to this race, at Lake Ontelaunee on October 28, 1941. (A specimen in the Reading Public Museum was taken along the Blue Ridge a few miles northeast of this county on November 11, 1928.)

BLACK GYRFALCON, *Falco rusticolus obsoletus* Gmelin

M. Broun reports the following observations at Hawk Mountain:

1934, October 12 & 16, one on each date, (Mrs. C. N. Edge, Mrs. M. H. Edey, M.B.); 1936, October 16, one. (M.B.)



DUCK HAWK, *Falco peregrinus anatum* Tunstall

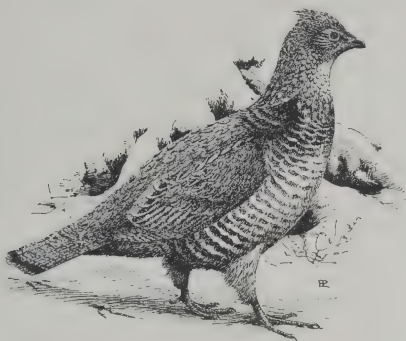
An uncommon transient and winter visitant, most frequently seen at Hawk Mountain and about Lake Ontelaunee. Earliest fall record, July 2 (1942); latest spring observation, April 2 (1930).

EASTERN PIGEON HAWK, *Falco columbarius columbarius*
Linnaeus

A rather rare transient. One of the least common species at Hawk Mountain in fall, where records are between September 12 (1934) and October 25 (1931-1936), it is even more rare in Spring. I have but four records between April 2 (1933) and May 10 (1936). All the local specimens in the Museum Collection were taken in April.

EASTERN SPARROW HAWK, *Falco sparverius sparverius*
Linnaeus

A common resident, nesting in all the larger valleys. During winter Sparrow Hawks often visit the heart of Reading to prey on the English Sparrows. In 1918 a pair nested in the steeple of Trinity Church, as they are reported to have done in the Colonial Trust Building. Six sets of eggs in the Mengel Collection were taken from April 30 (1894) to May 22 (1900).



EASTERN RUFFED GROUSE, *Bonasa umbellus umbellus*
(Linnaeus)

A common resident in the mountainous districts and heavy woodlands. It is found sparingly as close to Reading as Mt. Penn, Deer Path Hill, Gulden Hill and Flying Hill, etc. This species is subject to periods of fluctuation, and may be comparatively rare for several seasons, then return to a period of comparative abundance.

Data on three sets of eggs in the Mengel collection; May 17, 1887, Moselem; May 24, 1890, Blue March; May 28, 1887, Monocacy. Another set was taken near Topton, May 6, 1906.

EUROPEAN PARTRIDGE, *Perdix perdix perdix* (Linnaeus)

Introduced. This species has been liberated on several occasions; apparently some time in the early 1920's, near Bally and Bechtelsville, and in 1925 and 1938, at several points in the county. So far as I am aware, none of these introductions have thrived.

One was found dead near Pricetown in March, 1925, and I flushed a covey near Fox Lake on January 10, 1926.

EASTERN BOB-WHITE, *Colinus virginianus marilandicus*
(Linnaeus)

Resident, varying in abundance. During severe winters they are often greatly reduced in numbers and require several years to recuperate. 1917-18 and 1934-5 were exceptionally hard on the Bob-white population, and at present writing, 1946, they have not fully recovered since the hard winter of 1934-35.

Eight local sets of eggs were taken from May 17 (1887) to June 14 (1890) by L. W. Mengel.

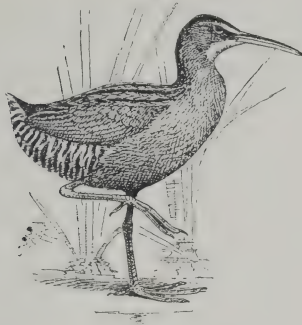
RING-NECKED PHEASANT, *Phasianus colchicus torquatus*
Gmelin

An introduced resident. Now abundant in many parts of the county, particularly on the Lake Ontelaunee watershed, which serves as a center of distribution for much of the surrounding country.

WILD TURKEY, *Melcagris gallopavo silvestris* Vieillot

Local resident along the Blue Ridge, where a few flocks are still to be found.

Listed by John F. Hofman in 1890, and reported as breeding sparingly in the Blue Mountains by D. Frank Keller at the same time (Warren 1890), it has probably persisted down to the present with occasional introductions of stock from elsewhere. In 1921 Daniel Hollenbach, who lived near Strausstown, spoke of killing one each year near that place, and six or seven were shot during the season of 1923 and 1924. On May 23, 1926, I saw a hen near Eckville that acted as though it had young nearby, and have since seen several, from single individuals up to a group of six. They are also seen at frequent intervals on and about the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, (M.B.). A specimen in the Reading Public Museum was taken at Eckville November 12, 1932.



KING RAIL, *Rallus elegans elegans* Audubon

A rare summer resident.

In 1930 one was seen frequently on a marshy island at the head of Lake Ontelaunee, from June 15 to October 4. (A.D., M.D., F.H., E.P.) During the following summer (1931), another was seen at the same place on August 9 and September 13; and in 1932 frequent observations of young in the same locality from July 17 to September 11 offered convincing proof that they had nested there.

A nest of this species was found at Blue Marsh, June 8, 1900, by L. W. Mengel.

VIRGINIA RAIL, *Rallus limicola limicola* Vieillot

A local summer resident, probably more generally distributed along marshy streams than is generally known.

I have 62 observations between April 19 (1939) and October 5 (1930). Two specimens in the Reading Museum collection were taken at Lake Ontelaunee, on November 27, 1930, and at Hopewell on December 25, 1936.

L. W. Mengel found it nesting in Exeter Township, May 24, 1903, as did W. H. Liebelsperger, at Moselem, on two occasions. Sets taken June 1, 1918 and June 7, 1921, are in the Reading Museum.

I have seen it carrying nesting material at Moselem, July 7, 1929, and found downy young in the Museum Park, July 12, 1931, at Peters' Creek, August 9 and 12, 1936, and in the same place on July 22 and August 1, 1939.

SORA, *Porzana carolina* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon and local summer resident; often more common during the fall migration.

My earliest observation is April 30, 1939; latest, October 19, 1932. A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken at Virginsville, May 30, 1896, and D. Frank Keller listed it as a breeder. (Warren 1890).

Stanley Bright and I watched a Sora carrying nesting material at Moselem Springs, May 20, 1922.

FLORIDA GALLINULE, *Gallinula chloropus cachinnans* Bangs

A rather rare transient. Seen once in summer, Moselem, July 14, 1928 (B.N. and E.P.).

There are thirteen recent spring records, mostly from Lake Ontelaunee, ranging between April 22, 1939 and June 2, 1945. Four fall observations are between September 28, 1929 and October 23, 1932.

There is a local specimen in the Reading Museum Collection.

AMERICAN COOT, *Fulica americana americana* Gmelin

A rather common transient about marshy ponds and streams, far more frequent at Lake Ontelaunee than elsewhere in the region.

Single individuals have been known to spend both summer and winter with us.

When not known to have wintered, first recorded Mar. 14 (1937) and do not again appear until after September 15 (1929).

Western Snowy Plover, *Charadrius nivosus nivosus* (Cassin)

A specimen in the Mengel collection, taken near "The Pinnacle", June 29, 1886, and labelled "Piping Plover, (*Charadrius meloda*)," proves on examination to be of this species.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER, *Charadrius semipalmatus* Bonaparte

Transient. Regular at Lake Ontelaunee; rare elsewhere.

Spring arrival. May 8 (1932) to May 26 (1929).

Spring departure. May 23 (1937) to June 18 (1939).

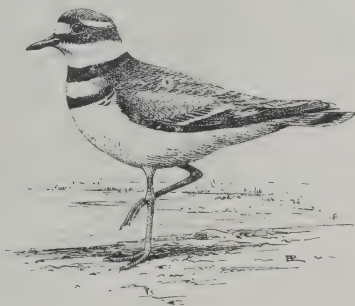
Fall arrival. July 12 (1938) to August 26 (1924-1930).

Fall departure. September 3 (1933) to October 20 (1938).

Wilson's Plover, *Pagolla wilsonia wilsonia* (Ord)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

There are three specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection labelled as follows: (2) September 26, 1886, Pricetown Hills; August 2, 1888, Fritz's Island.

**KILLDEER**, *Oxyechus vociferus vociferus* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident, wintering at least seven years out of twenty-five. When not known to have wintered it has arrived from February 7 (1926) to March 20 (1920) and departs, usually, from Oct. 14 (1923) to December 27 (1936).

Nesting dates from April 24 (1890) to June 1 (1887).

There are twenty-six sets of eggs in the Reading Public Museum.

AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER, *Pluvialis dominica dominica* (Müller)

An uncommon transient in fall. This species was unreported for many years prior to 1929, but since the flooding of Lake Ontelaunee has been recorded in the immediate neighborhood seven years out of eighteen. We have thirteen observations, of from one to five birds, ranging from Sept. 5 (1935 and 1939) to November 20, (1932). D.B., A.D., M.D., B.N., E.P., F.T. etc.

It was also listed by Hofman in 1890.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER, *Squatarola squatarola* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon transient, unrecorded before 1929, but since that time, recorded nine years out of twelve. Practically all records are from Lake Ontelaunee; I have nine spring observations between May 5 (1935) and June 6 (1939); and twenty-one fall occurrences from August 18 (1929) to November 13 (1932). Most records are of single birds. J.S., A.D., S.G., B.N., E.P., etc.

The largest number that I have noticed together locally, was six that remained about the lake from October 12 to 28, 1938.

RUDDY TURNSTONE, *Arenaria interpres morinella* (Linnaeus)

A rather rare transient. All recent observations have been in spring, although a specimen in the Reading Museum collection was taken by C. M. Shearer at Tuckerton, Sept. 30, 1889.

We have the following sight records; all at Lake Ontelaunee.

May 22 and 31, 1930	(1)	E.P.
May 19, 1934	"	E.P.
May 15 and 24, 1938	"	H.P. & E.P.
June 6, 1939	(10)	H.P. & E.P.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK, *Philohela minor* (Gmelin)

An uncommon transient and rather rare and local summer resident. Steadily diminishing in numbers.

My earliest spring record is March 7 (1929) and latest fall, November 5 (1921).

A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken near Douglasville, April 30, 1895; and W. H. Leibelsperger collected a set near Fleetwood on April 15, 1929, and has recently seen downy young in the same locality. I have also flushed it several times during the breeding season in the vicinity of Moselem.

WILSON'S SNIPE, *Capella gallinago delicata* (Ord)

A fairly common transient, and local winter resident about spring heads during mild winters.

It has been seen during every month in the year, between August 3 (1936) and June 6 (1930), and has evidently wintered at least nine years out of the past twenty-four.

Long-billed Curlew, *Numenius americanus americanus* Bechstein

"Mr. D. Frank Keller, of Reading, says it has been taken in Berks County." (Warren, B. of Pa.)

HUDSONIAN CURLEW, *Phaeopus hudsonicus* (Latham)

Casual. The only local occurrences known to me are of a flock of ten, led by a Black-bellied Plover, that circled rather low over the marshes at Lake Ontelaunee on May 25, 1930, just after a storm. They then continued on toward the north without alighting. A single bird was seen under very satisfactory conditions at the same place on May 24, 1941 by H. Y. Poole and myself.

UPLAND PLOVER, *Bartramia longicauda* (Bechstein)

An uncommon summer resident in the Oley and Great Valleys. Elsewhere a regular transient, its rolling call being frequently heard over Reading at night during the last weeks of July and early August. This lovely bird is steadily diminishing in numbers with us, and its spirit-like whinny, once as much a part of our rolling summer landscape as the waving grainfields and fleecy clouds, is less frequently heard each year.

Arrival. April 6 (1929) to May 6 (1939); average, 18 yrs. April 19.

Departure. August 12 (1938) to September 12 (1935); average, 17 years, August 22.

Data on three sets of eggs taken locally years ago and now in the Mengel collection; May 4 (1890 and 1893) and July 1, 1886.

W. H. Leibelsperger found it nesting May 11, 1914 at Windsor Castle; on May 28, 1907, near Fleetwood; and I found young near Walnuttown June 6, 1920, and at Maiden-creek, several times in 1929.

**SPOTTED SANDPIPER**, *Actitis macularia* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident about ponds and all fair-sized streams.

Arrival. April 6 (1924) to May 2 (1937); average 25 years, April 23.

Departure. August 25 (1931) to October 13 (1929); average 21 years, September 14.

G. H. Mengel reported a straggler at Wyomissing, November 21, 1925, and there is one midwinter record, Jan. 19, 1947, at Lake Ontelaunee, D.B., B.N.

A pair bred in the Museum Park in 1929, three young coming off the nest June 6. There are numerous nesting records from all over the county.

EASTERN SOLITARY SANDPIPER, *Tringa solitaria solitaria*
Wilson

A common transient.

Spring arrival. April 21 (1923) to May 8 (1917); average 21 years, April 30. An unusually early observation is March 25, 1928, E.P.

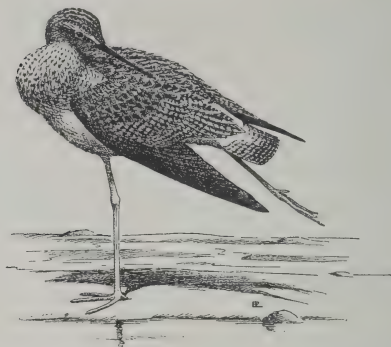
Spring departure. May 3 (1928) to May 30 (1932); average 23 years, May 17.

Fall arrival. July 4 (1930, 1932) to August 14 (1938); average 21 years, July 30.

Fall departure. Sept. 3 (1933) to Oct. 19 (1917); average 20 years. Sept. 11.

EASTERN WILLET, *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus semipalmatus*
(Gmelin)

Casual. One was observed under very favorable conditions, both at rest and in flight, at Lake Ontelaunee following a severe storm on August 24, 1933. A.D., M.D., E.P.



GREATER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus melanoleucus* (Gmelin)

A fairly common transient on mud flats and shallow ponds.

When conditions are favorable, as in 1930, individuals may be present throughout the summer. Whether these are non-breeders or north- and south-bound transients that meet on their respective journeys is problematical.

Spring arrival. March 23 (1930-1933) to May 5 (1935).

Spring departure. May 10 (1936) to June 22 (1940):

Fall arrival. July 28 (1939) to Sept. 13 (1925).

Fall departure. Oct. 6 (1935) to November 13 (1932).

LESSER YELLOW-LEGS, *Totanus flavipes* (Gmelin)

Transient, equally as common as the previous species in Spring; and more abundant in the fall migration. Collected specimens have confirmed this opinion.

Spring arrival. March 12 (1933) to May 5 (1935).

Spring departure. May 14 (1933) to June 22 (1940).

Fall arrival. July 6 (1930) to August 9 (1931).

Fall departure. Oct. 14 (1928) to Nov. 16 (1930).

AMERICAN KNOT, *Calidris canutus rufus* (Wilson)

Listed by John Hofmann, 1890.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER, *Pisobia melanotos* (Vieillot)

Transient, usually rare or absent in Spring, generally rather common in fall in such favorable localities as Lake Ontelaunee. Rare elsewhere. The occurrence of this species, as of most of the other shorebirds, seems to depend largely on the prevalence of extensive mud flats during the period of migration.

Spring records are between March 25 (1933) and May 24 (1938).

Fall arrival from June 29 (1930) to Aug. 24 (1933).

Fall departure. Sept. 6 (1936) to November 10 (1929).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER, *Pisobia fuscicollis* (Vieillot)

A rather rare transient at Lake Ontelaunee, unrecorded elsewhere.

I have four spring records between May 20, (1930), and June 5, (1939), and nine fall records between August 3, 1943 and Oct. 22, (1933). Most observations are of single birds, but on October 3, 1929 after a severe northeast storm, a flock of 30 alighted at Lake Ontelaunee.

Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken locally on August 11, 1892 and October 17, 1899, and another was collected by D. Frank Keller, (Warren, 1890).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER, *Pisobia bairdi* (Coues)

A rare transient in fall.

The only recent local records known to me are as follows; all at Lake Ontelaunee.

Sept. 28, 1932, E.P.

August 23, 24, Sept. 3, 16 and 20, 1938 (2 on the last three dates) A.D., M.D., E.P.

August 23-26, 1940, J.H., E.P.

August 30, 31, 1941, E.P.

August 29-30, 1942, E.P.

August 24, 1944 (7) E.P.

Sept. 2, 1944 (1) E.P.

LEAST SANDPIPER, *Pisobia minutilla* (Vieillot)

A fairly common transient at Lake Ontelaunee. Rare elsewhere in the county.

Spring arrival. April 31, (1943) to May 10, (1936).

Spring departure. May 23 (1934) to June 6 (1939).

Fall arrival. July 6 (1930) to July 24 (1937).

Fall departure. Sept. 3 (1933) to October 10 (1937).

There are five local specimens in the Mengel collection.

**RED-BACKED SANDPIPER**, *Pelidna alpina sakhalina* (Vieillot)

A rather rare transient at Lake Ontelaunee, very rare or unknown elsewhere.

We have twenty spring observations between May 4 (1933) and June 1 (1930) of from one to twelve individuals; also sixteen fall observations from August 24 (1938) to November 21 (1935). A.D. & E.P.

On October 17, 1942, J. C. Tracey and I saw a flock of 13 flying low over Hawk Mountain, headed in an easterly direction. Another unusual observation was at Lake Ontelaunee, December 27, 1942. (A.S. & E.P.)

EASTERN DOWITCHER, *Limnodromus griseus griseus* (Gmelin)

A rather rare transient in fall; very rare in spring. All recent records are from Lake Ontelaunee or Moselem.

The only spring record is June 1, (1930) E.P. Fall observations are Sept. 8, 1929 B.N. & E.P., Aug. 5, 1931 (3) E.P., Sept. 20, 1931 (2), Oct. 5, 1932, Aug. 26-Sept. 5, 1935. F.C. & E.P., Aug. 15 and 21 (2), Sept. 4, 1939, Aug. 18-27, 1940 (2 photographed) J.H. & E.P.

STILT SANDPIPER, *Micropalama himantopus* (Bonaparte)

An uncommon fall transient about Lake Ontelaunee. We have twenty-four observations from August 9 (1936) to October 9 (1932), A.D., D.B., B.N., C.R., & E.P. Usually this species is seen in small groups of from 2 to 6 individuals.

Also listed by Hofmann.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER, *Ercunetes pusillus* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient at Lake Ontelaunee, where a hundred or more are sometimes seen after fall storms, rather rare elsewhere.

Spring arrival. May 11 (1930) to May 28 (1933-1937).

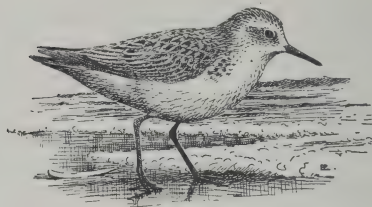
Spring departure. May 24 (1936) to June 18 (1939).

Fall arrival. July 12 (1938) to August 10 (1940).

Fall departure. Sept. 8 (1930) to October 17 (1937).

WESTERN SANDPIPER, *Ercunetes mauri* Cabanis

A rare transient at Lake Ontelaunee. Not observed elsewhere. Two spring observations are May 28, 1933 and June 5, 1939, E.P. The only recent fall records are August 19, 1929, (A.D.), August 28, 1932 (E.P.), August 9, 1936, (E.P.), August 15 to 21, 1940, and August 24, 1944, (E.P.).



SANDERLING, *Crocethia alba* (Pallas)

An uncommon transient in fall, rare in spring. As might be expected, most recent records are from Lake Ontelaunee. This species is almost invariably observed during or after severe storms, and, in my experience, has never been seen on two successive days. The lone spring observation was on June 6, 1939. All fall records follow:

Sept. 11, 1921	Angelica Dam	S.B. & E.P.
Sept. 4, 1922	Angelica	G.H.M.
Aug. 24, 1933 (5)	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.
Sept. 5, 1935 (2)	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.
Sept. 20, 1938 (4)	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.
Sept. 4, 1942	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.
Aug. 19, 24 and Sept. 4, 1944	Lake Ontelaunee	E.P.

There is a specimen in the Mengel collection taken at Greenawald, April 22, 1887.

Red Phalarope, *Phalaropus fulicarius* (Linnaeus)

Casual at Lake Ontelaunee. On November 10, 1932, three of this species were seen on the dam during a severe storm accompanied by high easterly winds. (E.P.)

On December 29, 1940, after two days of rain, one was seen under excellent conditions at the same place. This was watched at leisure as it turned in the water and apparently picked up small objects from the surface. The distinctive white crown, compact form and other characters were carefully noted. According to local observations, this species is more given to alighting in deep water than either of the other phalaropes. The Wilson's seems more typically a wader in shallows and mudflats; the northern, a swimmer or wader in shoal water.

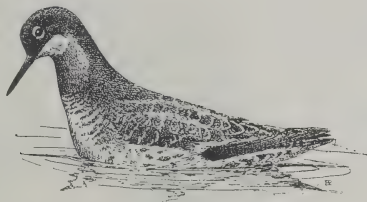
WILSON'S PHALAROPE, *Steganopus tricolor* Vieillot

Probably casual. A full plumaged female was seen at close range and in good light, wading on a mud flat with a flock of Least Sandpipers at Peter's Creek, Lake Ontelaunee, May 9, 1940. E.P.

By a curious coincidence, a male was observed at exactly the same spot on May 17, 1941. H.Y.P. and E.P.

A third occurrence is one seen at Lake Ontelaunee on Sept. 2-4, 1944. E.P.

(In connection with these observations, I was previously well acquainted with this species, having seen it frequently in the West.)

**NORTHERN PHALAROPE**, *Lobipes lobatus* (Linnaeus)

A rare transient, spring and fall, usually occurring after rain. All recent records follow:

Spring,	Lake Ontelaunee	April 22, 1937	E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	May 25, 1940	E.P.
Fall,	Moselem	Aug. 26, 1928	M.D., A.D., F.H. & E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Sept. 14, 1929	E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Aug. 28, 1932	B.N. & E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Oct. 3, 1929 (2)	E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Aug. 28, 1932	B.N. & E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Aug. 21, 1933	E.P.
	Lake Ontelaunee	Sept. 26, 1940	E. S. Frey

A specimen in the Reading Museum was taken on April 20, 1890, by C. H. Shearer.

HERRING GULL, *Larus argentatus smithsonianus* Coues

A tolerably common transient and less frequent winter visitant. Stragglers may occur at any season.

. Transient records are between August 24, (1933) and June 8, (1922). One individual remained at Lake Ontelaunee from July 26 to September 5, 1941 and another was seen in the same locality throughout the summer of 1942.

RING-BILLED GULL, *Larus delawarensis* Ord

A tolerably common transient at Lake Ontelaunee and along the Schuylkill. We have records for every month in the year except December, although the majority are from March through May.

A specimen in the Reading Museum was taken on the Sacony, near Kutztown in April, 1904, by W. H. Leibel-sperger.

LAUGHING GULL, *Larus atricilla* (Linnaeus)

Casual, in late summer and fall. All recent records follow:

Lake Ontelaunee	Nov. 10, 1932 (2)	E.P.
Lake Ontelaunee	Aug. 24, 1933 (10)	E.P.
Lake Ontelaunee	Sept. 4-5, 1935	E.P.
Lake Ontelaunee	Aug. 19 & 20, 1939 (2)	J.H., R.Y., E.P.

BONAPARTE'S GULL, *Larus philadelphia* (Ord)

Transient, fairly common in spring, uncommon in fall, casual in winter. Singly or in flocks up to 19 (April 4, 1942).

Spring, March 26 (1937) to May 16 (1940).

Fall, October 3 (1929) to November 29 (1931); (Dec. 26, 1938).

Atlantic Kittiwake, *Rissa tridactyla tridactyla* (Linnaeus)

Casual. One was seen at Lake Ontelaunee, November 17, 1935, during a severe Northeast storm, said to have been the worst in 20 years. (E.P.). Recorded by J. F. Hofmann, 1890. (Hofmann's omission of the Bonaparte's Gull in his list, leaves some room for

doubt of his identification of this species, which has frequently been confused with the latter in its winter plumage.)

Gull-Billed Tern, *Gelochelidon nilotica aranea* (Wilson)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

FORSTER'S TERN, *Sterna forsteri* Nuttall

Casual. One seen at the head of Lake Ontelaunee on August 17, 1930. The head markings, silvery primaries and distinctive call were noticed, and the bird was watched for almost an hour as it hunted over the marshes and mud flats. (E.P.) I was previously well acquainted with this species. It was also listed by Hofmann in 1890.



COMMON TERN, *Sterna hirundo hirundo* Linnaeus

An uncommon transient on the larger ponds and streams. Spring April 22, (1937) to June 13 (1930); 13 records.

Fall, July 20 (1936) to October 19 (1932); 18 records.

Listed by John F. Hofmann 1890, and reported from the county by D. Frank Keller. (Warren, 1890.)

Arctic Tern, *Sterna paradisea* Brunnich

Reported as casual in Berks County by D. Frank Keller. (Warren, B. of Pa., 1890.)

Roseate Tern, *Sterna dougalli dougalli* Montagu

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken on the

Schuyllkill, near Tuckerton, August 17, 1895 by C. H. Shearer.

LEAST TERN, *Sterna antillarum antillarum* (Lesson)

Casual. One observed at Lake Ontelaunee following a severe northeaster and tropical hurricane on August 24, 1933. E.P.

Mentioned as occurring in the county by John F. Hofmann (1890) and by D. Frank Keller, (Warren, 1890).

A specimen taken on the Schuyllkill near Tuckerton by C. H. Shearer August 11, 1892, is in the Reading Museum collection.

Royal Tern, *Thalasseus maximus maximus* (Boddaert)

Henry B. Graves recorded the capture of a specimen in Berks County in Sept., 1897. (Warren, B. of Pa.)

CASPIAN TERN, *Hydroprogne caspia imperator* (Pallas)

An uncommon transient. All records are from Lake Ontelaunee, usually after storms, and comprised from one to thirteen individuals.

Spring, April 22 (1939) to May 15 (1937), six dates.

Fall, August 11 (1946) to October 3, (1939), seven dates.
D.B., J.S.D., E.P., P.M.

BLACK TERN, *Chlidonias nigra surinamensis* (Gmelin)

A fairly common transient about the larger ponds.

Spring, 19 records between May 3 (1929) and June 1 (1930).

Fall, 21 records between July 31 (1920) and Sept. 25, (1921). (G.H.M.)

DOVEKIE, *Alle alle* (Linnaeus)

Casual. One was found near Birdsboro on November 19, 1932, and turned over to the Reading Museum by Lester Leinbach. This was taken after a severe easterly storm, which left many of this species stranded about Philadelphia and at various points along the coast. It was much emaciated.

ROCK DOVE, *Columba livia livia* Gmelin

Resident. The familiar domestic pigeon exists in a feral condition in several places in the county, breeding about bridges and on taller buildings in the center of Reading.

EASTERN MOURNING DOVE, *Zenaidura macroura carolinensis* (Linnaeus)

Resident; abundant in summer, uncommon in winter.

I have seen sets of eggs from April 24 (1917) to August 1 (1924) and young have been found in the nest in September.

Passenger Pigeon, *Ectopistes migratorius* (Linnaeus)

Prior to 1880 or 1881 the Passenger Pigeons resorted for several weeks each fall to the southwestern side of Neversink Mountain, where the roosting multitudes spread from the site of the Highland House to the old Tuberculosis Sanitorium. During flights the local gunners would take up a position on the open slopes of the mountain below and fire until their guns became hot. A large rock formerly in the Schuylkill River, known as Pigeon Rock, was so named from the fact that the pigeons resorted to it to bathe and drink.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO, *Coccyzus americanus americanus* (Linnaeus)

Common summer resident.

Arrival May 5 (1922) to May 24 (1928).

Departure August 24 (1920) to October 3 (1929).

Complete sets of eggs have been found as early as May 19 (1895), (Mengel collection), and I have seen a nest containing three young about a week old as late as August 23 (1922).

This is easily the commoner of our two cuckoos, outnumbering the black-billed species in the proportion of two to one.



BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO, *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (Wilson)

Fairly common summer resident, varying considerably in numbers from year to year.

Arrival May 3 (1936) to May 19 (1917).

Departure August 22 (1927) to October 14 (1922).

Four sets of eggs in the Mengel and Leibelsperger collections were taken between the dates of May 24 (1890) and June 5 (1889).



BARN OWL, *Tyto alba pratincola* (Bonaparte)

Resident: fairly common in suitable localities, but secretive and easily overlooked.

Of twenty nests that I have found in this vicinity within the past thirty years, at least sixteen have been subse-

quently destroyed either by the elements or by man.

Young may apparently be found in the nest at any season. A nest at Montello, visited May 26, 1921, contained two fresh eggs, although a brood of young had already been raised in the same cavity. A large sycamore cut down near Evansville, October 10, 1926, contained two young, one able to fly and the other approximately three weeks old, while a nest in the same neighborhood contained two healthy young on January 12, 1927. Four young, unable to fly, were found in a deserted pigeon loft in Wyomissing during the first week in December, 1942.

During the summer of 1926 a family occupied the belfry of St. Mark's Reformed Church in the City of Reading, much to the annoyance of the neighbors, who were kept awake by the rasping nocturnal calls of the birds.

Sets of eggs in local collections were taken April 11, 1907, and April 29, 1885, the latter in the barn of the Pricetown Hotel.

SCREECH OWL, *Otus asio naevius* (Gmelin)

A common resident throughout the county. This is easily the commonest and most familiar of our owls, the grey phase being slightly more abundant than the red in this locality.

Screech Owls are frequently seen in and about Reading, where they take toll among the roosting sparrows at night and spend the day in some old tree or convenient crevice.

Local sets of eggs have been taken between April 4 (1888) and May 19 (1895). L.W.M.

GREAT HORNED OWL, *Bubo virginianus virginianus* (Gmelin)

Resident in the more heavily forested sections of the county, but apparently more generally distributed and frequently heard in winter.

The Blue Ridge, especially that section which traverses Albany Township, the wilder portions of the Reading Hills, and the region between Flying Hill and Hopewell, sometimes spoken of as "the forest," seem to harbor more Horned Owls than any other part of the county.

Walter H. Leibelsperger saw a young Horned Owl in some heavy woodland in Oley Township on April 18, 1908, and a hollow tree felled in the same place on April 20, 1913 contained a young bird of this species and the bodies of two rabbits.

A pair of half-incubated eggs were taken from an old Hawk's nest in Albany Township by L. W. Mengel, April 1, 1888.

On April 30, 1929, S. Wishnieski shot two fully fledged young on Flying Hill, and the following day one of the adults was seen in the same locality. Edward Hill photographed a family that nested near Hopewell in 1942.

SNOWY OWL, *Nyctea nyctea* (Linnaeus)

A rare and irregular winter visitant. During November 1926, at least seven were shot in Berks County, as follows:

November 12, Lyons, by Charles W. Smith.

November 15, Kutztown, Robert Schlenker.

November 18, near Kutztown, Frank Wiltrot.

November 20, near Fleetwood, Peter Strunk.

"Late November" near Shartlesville, Adam Hiester.

"November" near Adamstown, George Michael of Reading.

"Late November" near Kutztown, Howard Dietrich.

A male in the Reading Museum collection was shot on the Blue Mountain near Strausstown, Nov. 18, 1937 by Carmen Civitos.

One remained about a limestone quarry near Sinking Spring from October 23 to November 16, 1941, and was seen and photographed by nearly all of the local bird students

and many from the Philadelphia region. In 1945 there was another extensive invasion when the following observations were made:

Hopewell, Nov. 27, Albert Bachman.

Glenside, Reading; Dec. 5, K. Chubb.

Near Moselem, ab. Dec. 10, A. R. Bachman.

During the same season at least three were shot locally, as follows:

Hamburg R. #1., Dec. 11, Raymond Althouse.

Fleetwood R. #1, Nov. 27, Chester Meals.

West Lawn, Dec. 1, Arthur Stauler.

Listed by J. F. Hofmann as occurring locally, 1890.

American Hawk Owl, *Surnia ulula caparoch* (Müller)

There is a specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection taken in Albany Township, January 26, 1887.

NORTHERN BARRED OWL, *Strix varia varia* Barton

A rare winter visitant, formerly nested. An egg taken at Douglassville, April 10, 1888 is in the L. W. Mengel collection, and a skin taken by him in Albany Township, May 16, 1885 is in the Reading Public Museum. A single bird flushed at Flying Hill, December 7, 1924 is my only local observation.

Byron Nunemacher and Calvin Stott saw one along the Schuylkill at Seyfert's on December 28, 1924.



LONG-EARED OWL, *Asio wilsonianus* (Lesson)

Resident, rather rare and local; resorting in the daytime to groves of evergreens. More common formerly.

Most recent observations are in the fall and early winter, but there are scattering records throughout the year.

W. H. Leibelsperger has found it breeding at Virginville, April 7, 1907; near Pricetown, April 16, 1911, and near Perryville, April 13, 1911. More recently, I have seen nests at the following places: June 4, 1932, near Shartlesville, two full grown, just out of the nest, and accompanied by a parent: April 22 to May 13, 1934, a nest in the hills above Fleetwood. (The young left the nest on the latter date.) In 1938 a pair nested in Jack Pines on the Nolde estate in Cumru Township, and remained in the grove until June 17, according to Mr. C. A. DeLong, the forester. There are three sets of eggs taken locally in the Museum collection with the following data; Bethel Township, April 30, 1885; Virginville, May 17, 1889 and Greenawald, 1895.

This entirely beneficial bird is frequently shot in the belief that it is the Great Horned Owl. I have examined many quarts of pellets found under its roosts, and can fully corroborate the testimony of others, that its prey consists almost entirely of mice, rats and shrews.

This species is occasionally heard calling at night in the Hawk Mountain refuge during the fall.

SHORT-EARED OWL, *Asio flammeus flammeus* (Pontoppidan)

An uncommon transient in fall, winter, and early spring. There are several summer records, indicating the possibility of breeding. Most spring records are between February 20 and April 18. The fall observations are practically all in November.

The summer records are all from the refuge surrounding Lake Ontelaunee, as follows:

July 27, 1929; May 18, 30; June 26; July 10, 1932.

On the latter date three were flying over the meadows at 10 A.M.

SAW-WHET OWL, *Cryptoglaux acadica acadica* (Gmelin)

A rare winter visitant. All the recent records follow.

November 6, 1921, one heard and seen at Antietam. (B.N.)

November 12, 1913, Albany Township. (W.H.L.)

November 23, 1919, one in a dense cedar woods in Robeson Township had a white-footed mouse in its claws, although it was nearly noon. (J.E. and E.L.P.)

December 25, 1926, the remains of one that had been recently killed by some larger bird of prey, were found at Moselem. (B.N., E.P.)

January 30, 1920, one dozing in a scrub pine in Hessian Camp, within the city limits. (E.L.P.)

March 15, 1936, a specimen was found on this date by W. Smaglinski.

April 20, 1885, one was collected in Bethel Township by L. W. Mengel.

April 30, 1922, one was observed in a clump of hemlocks along the base of the Blue Ridge in Albany Township.

From the condition of the ground below it had apparently roosted there for some time. (E.L.P.)

(A set of two eggs formerly reported as of this species taken at Mountain, Albany Township, by John F. Hofmann

prior to 1891 are in the Reading Public Museum. On examination these prove to be eggs of the Mourning Dove. (R.Y. & E.P.)

EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL, *Antrostomus vociferus vociferus*
Wilson

A common summer resident throughout the more heavily wooded regions; occasionally found elsewhere during migrations.

My earliest arrival date is April 26 (1932), the latest fall record, October 3 (1942, M.B.). Because of its local distribution, few representative migration dates are available.

Eggs taken between May 22 (1884) and July 10 (1894) are in the Reading Museum collection.



EASTERN NIGHTHAWK, *Chordeiles minor minor* (Forster)

Common summer resident.

Arrival, May 2 (1929) to May 21 (1925).

Average, 22 years, May 9.

Departure, August 8 (1926) to September 23 (1920).

Average, 18 years, September 4.

Because of its habit of nesting on slag roofs in the heart of the city, the Nighthawk is one of our best known native birds, although it is commonly mistaken for the Whip-poor-will. While it is most active in the early morning and at dusk, it frequently hunts at midday, and it is not unusual

to see one perched for hours throughout the day on the crossarm of a telegraph pole on a busy street.

Late in August and in September flocks of 15 or 20 are sometimes noticed.

Eggs are laid from May 27 to July 16. (Reading Public Museum collection).

CHIMNEY SWIFT, *Chaetura pelagica* (Linnaeus)

An abundant summer resident, and like the last species a familiar figure in our city bird-life.

Arrival, April 12 (1924) to April 30 (1921).

Average, 22 years, April 20.

Departure, September 12 (1924) to October 19 (1917).

Average, 20 years, October 3.

Local sets of eggs have been found from June 1 to June 30. (R.P.M. Coll.)



RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD, *Archilochus colubris* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common summer resident. More widely distributed in late August and early September.

Arrival, May 6 (1924) to May 29 (1926).

Average, 15 years, May 16.

Departure, August 28 (1921) to October 5 (1944).

Average, 16 years, September 17.

Local sets of eggs in the Reading Museum collection

have been taken between June 9 (1892) and July 5 (1890).

EASTERN BELTED KINGFISHER, *Megasceryle alcyon alcyon*
(Linnaeus)

Common summer resident, or frequent permanent resident during mild winters.

This is one of the most erratic birds in its arrival during the years that it is not known to winter, putting in an appearance anywhere from February 3 (1924) to March 25 (1916). Its departure in fall is just as irregular, and may take place anywhere from October 14, (1923) to January 1, (1937). It has been recorded through January 13 years out of 26.

Dates on eight sets of eggs in the Mengel collection, May 19 (1895) to June 15 (1890).

NORTHERN FLICKER, *Colaptes auratus luteus* Bangs

Abundant summer resident, local and uncommon in winter, but sometimes remaining in sheltered places during severe winters, as in 1924-25. Recorded in midwinter 9 years out of 25.

Arrival in numbers, February 21 (1925) to April 6 (1940).

Average, 25 years, March 20.

When not known to winter, departure may take place anywhere between September 23 (1934) and December 27 (1936).

Eggs have been taken from May 17 (1888) to June 18 (1890). (Mengel collection.)

NORTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER, *Ceophloeus pilcatus abieticola* Bangs

A rare and local resident in the Blue Mountain Region. From 1940 to 1942 one or more specimens were reported in the hills above Fleetwood, although we have no definite information on its status in that locality.

On May 28, 1922, I had an excellent view of one of these fine birds along the base of the Blue Mountain in Albany Township, after the bird had been supposedly extirpated from the county for at least 25 years. Subsequent inquiry among residents of the section elicited the following information: The species was unknown in that section until about the date previously mentioned. Since that time, however, it has been consistently seen, in small numbers, by several residents of the neighborhood. On November 17, 1924 two were shot by a squatter, under the pretext that they were "after his chickens!" However, a few were still seen in the vicinity until 1938, at least.

According to Jacob Degler, who lives along the mountain near Strausstown, they bred near his home in 1933, and remained in that neighborhood at least until 1935, when Byron Nunemacher and I saw one on two occasions, April 14, 1928.

Since the establishment of the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in 1935, there have been many observations in and near the refuge throughout the year.

I heard two calling and one working on what I believed to be a nest near the Sanctuary on April 30, 1939.

It is probable that individuals wander a great deal during the course of the year; certainly for such a seemingly conspicuous bird it is comparatively seldom seen, even by those who spend much time looking for it. This is due, in a measure, to its habit of feeding well down in the trunks of dead trees, or even on the ground, where it can swiftly slip out of sight upon the slightest suspicion of danger.

A mounted specimen in the Reading Museum is said to have been taken in Albany Township, about 1890, by John Hofmann.

D. Frank Keller reported it as very rare in the county at the time of the publication of "Birds of Pennsylvania".

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER, *Centurus carolinus* (Linnaeus)

A rare visitant. Probably more frequent formerly.
Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

Specimens have been taken in the county as follows:

Bethel Township	May 17, 1885	(L. W. Mengel)
Wyomissing Creek	July 1, 1885	(L. W. Mengel)
Monocacy Hill	November 16, 1890	(L. W. Mengel)
Friedensburg	January 10, 1930	(S. Wishnieski)

**RED-HEADED WOODPECKER**, *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (Linnaeus)

Formerly a fairly common summer resident throughout the larger valleys; occasionally resident. Becoming increasingly scarce.

Arrival April 27 (1924) to May 8 (1918).

Average, 21 years, May 9.

Departure, September 7 (1930) to October 14 (1922).

Average, 15 years, September 14.

Sets of eggs in the Reading Museum's collection, were taken between the dates of May 24 (1890) and June 5 (1889).

During the winter of 1918-19 one wintered in Carsonia Park, and was seen repeatedly through the winter until March 16 (A. Deeter).

Another was observed at Wyomissing, January 17, 1921

(G. H. Mengel) and a third wintered near Blandon, winter of 1928-29. (Deeter, Poole.)

Eggs have been found from May 30, (1890) to June 20, (1895). Mengel collection.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, *Sphyrapicus varius varius* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common transient and occasional winter resident.

Spring arrival, March 30 (1918-1919) to April 20 (1937).

Average, 21 years, April 10.

Spring departure, April 9 (1934) to May 21 (1928).

Average, 17 years, May 5.

Fall arrival, September 18 (1927) to October 16 (1920).

Average, 20 years, September 30.

Fall departure, October 1, (1928) to November 26 (1925).

Average, 17 years, October 16.

In addition I have the following winter records:

December 24, 1920

December 3, 1922 (B.N.)

January 26, 1924

December 27, 1924

January 18, 24, and February 7, 1925

January 2, 1933

December 22, 1946, Pricetown, E.H., P.J., E.M.

January 5, 1947, Gibraltar, D.B., B.N.

Nearly all our winter records are from the Schuylkill River below Reading.

EASTERN HAIRY WOODPECKER, *Dryobates villosus villosus* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common resident, more frequently seen in winter. About one seventh as abundant as the following species. During the breeding seasons this Woodpecker retires to the deeper woodland, where it is more often heard than seen. I have found it breeding at Grill, Monocacy

Hill, Mohnton, Mt. Penn, near Strausstown, and well up on the side of the Blue Mountain at Pulpit Rock, where one was feeding well-grown young on June 16, 1917.

A set of eggs in the Mengel Collection was taken June 2, 1892.



NORTHERN DOWNY WOODPECKER, *Dryobates pubescens medianus* (Swainson)

Common permanent resident, more abundant and familiar in winter.

Eggs in Reading Museum Collection were taken at Willow Creek, June 15, 1895 and at Antietam June 11, 1901.

EASTERN KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus tyrannus* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident.

Arrival, April 24 (1920) to May 18 (1917).

Average, 21 years, May 5.

Departure, August 16 (1936) to September 20 (1931).

Average, 20 years, August 27.

Local sets of eggs in the Reading Museum Collection range from May 19 (1890) to June 25 (1895).

ARKANSAS KINGBIRD, *Tyrannus verticalis* Say

Casual. There are but two local sight records known to me.

One at Lake Ontelaunee, September 18, 1938, was observed at a distance of 50 feet, and watched for some time at

rest and in flight by Helen Poole and myself. Both of us were thoroughly familiar with the species in its normal habitat in the west. This, like the following occurrence, followed a severe storm with northeasterly winds.

Another was seen at Lake Ontelaunee, August 25, 1941, following a storm. This was also a most satisfactory observation, and the bird performed in characteristic fashion, calling frequently. (E.L.P.)



NORTHERN CRESTED FLYCATCHER, *Myiarchus crinitus boreus* Bangs

A common summer resident throughout the county.

Arrival, April 28 (1929) to May 11 (1919-1921).

Average, 23 years, May 6.

Departure, August 22 (1917) to September 21 (1940).

Average, 19 years, September 9.

Eggs taken from May 30 (1896) to September 16 (1893) are in the Museum collection.

EASTERN PHOEBE, *Sayornis phoebe* (Latham)

Common summer resident. Occasional in winter.

Arrival, March 5 (1921) to April 6 (1940).

Average, 25 years, March 24.

Departure, September 14 (1923) to November 1 (1925).

Average, 24 years, October 9.

Evidently the same individual was seen on December 18, 1920, and February 26, 1921, along the Tulpehocken Creek near Van Reed's paper mill. It appeared to be subsisting on Japanese honeysuckle berries and other small fruits.

This is one of the birds most frequently imposed upon by the Cowbird.

Complete sets of eggs have been found from May 24 (1923) to June 25 (1894). Reading Museum collection.

SAY'S PHOEBE, *Sayornis saya saya* (Bonaparte)

Casual. One was seen under very favorable conditions at Lake Ontelaunee on December 22, 1946. (S. and M. Gundy, J. H., E. P., and R. Y.) I was previously well acquainted with this species, having seen it in several places in the West. (E.L.P.) Upon returning, members of the party checked their observations with museum skins. D. Shaeffer saw the same bird at the same place on December 28. This occurrence evidently constitutes a first state record for the species.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax flaviventris* (Baird & Baird)

An uncommon transient, frequently overlooked because of its lateness in spring and retiring habits. With us it is usually found in dense woods, where it keeps well concealed. In spring it is most readily located by its sweet, plaintive call, which suggests that of the Wood Pewee, but pitched higher, and slurred into one syllable.

On May 30, 1924, I saw at least a dozen and heard several others during a morning's walk along the woodland paths at the northern end of Mt. Penn.

I have 21 spring records between May 8 (1932) and June 3 (1928) and 17 fall dates between August 18 (1922) and September 17 (1933). (Hawk Mountain, Oct. 10, 1941. M.B.)

There are three local specimens in the Museum collection.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax virescens* (Vieillot)

A rather rare transient. Formerly, at least, probably a rare summer resident, although no nests from the county are known.

The difficulty of positively identifying this species in life, unless it happens to be singing, leaves the possibility of a relatively high percentage of errors in sight records. In 30 years, I have only 17 sight records of which I am reasonably confident; ten in spring, between May 7 (1922) and May 31 (1924) and seven in fall, between August 27 (1933) and September 11 (1927).

A local specimen taken June 12, 1884, and another taken May 28, 1883 are in the Reading Public Museum.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel have had four June observations in the Hay Creek Valley; June 24, 1917; June 23, 1918; June 12, 1921, and June 22, 1922.

ALDER FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax traillii traillii* (Audubon)

A very rare and local summer resident and rare transient. It is difficult to identify unless singing, hence most sight records, unless made under exceptional conditions, are unsatisfactory. We have but four spring records, as follows:

May 25, 1924, "singing" near Albright College, Reading (E.L.P.).

May 30, 1926, Moselem (E.L.P.).

May 29, 1938, one singing at White Bear (E.L.P.).

May 23, 1934, one collected at Angelica (S.W.).

On June 13 and 21, 1925, one was found singing in an alder swamp along the upper Pine Creek in Albany township. This may have been breeding, although no nest was found. (A.D., M.D., F.H., and E.P.)

In addition I have one satisfactory fall sight record, a bird watched for some time under perfect conditions at Moselem, August 30, 1936.

It was listed by J. F. Hofmann in 1890.

LEAST FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax minimus* (Baird and Baird)

A fairly common summer resident, more abundant during the spring migration. It nests over the entire county, which may seem somewhat remarkable in view of the fact that in Lancaster and Chester Counties it is considered a transient only, and is considered quite rare in fall.

Arrival, April 22 (1916) to May 10 (1925).

Average, 21 years, May 2.

Departure, August 28 (1921-22) to October 5 (1936).

Average, 15 years, September 5.

In addition to two sets of eggs taken at Fleetwood, May 29, 1904 and June 21, 1906, in the Reading Museum Collection, I have found it undoubtedly nesting at Gougliersville, Plow Church, Birdsboro, Hopewell, Strausstown, Rittenhouse Gap, Greenawald, Eckville, and Temple.

EASTERN WOOD PEWEE, *Myiochanes virens* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident. One of the characteristic voices of the summer woodlands.

Arrival, May 7 (1922) to May 25 (1917).

Average, 22 years, May 16.

Departure, August 30 (1931) to September 29 (1918, A. Deeter).

Average, 18 years, September 16.

Eleven sets of eggs taken, have been locally from June 1 (1893) to July 4 (1895) L. W. Mengel.

This is another frequent victim of the cowbird.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, *Nuttallornis mesoleucus*
(Lichtenstein)

Transient, uncommon in Spring, tolerably common in fall. This species must be looked for, during the season when it is present, on the topmost branches of some dead tree, preferably one that towers above some wooded hillside.

Probably more are observed at Hawk Mountain than at any other place in the County.

I have eight spring records between May 11 (1930) and June 3 (1928-1945), and 25 fall dates, sometimes as many as three at a time, between August 15 (1927, specimen) and September 20 (1941).

NORTHERN HORNED LARK, *Otocoris alpestris alpestris*
(Linnaeus)

A fairly common winter visitant, somewhat erratic and occasionally rare, but present at some time each year. This is distinctively a bird of the open country, particularly of the broad wind-swept valleys. In spring just before its departure, it sometimes swirls in flocks of hundreds over the freshly plowed fields, singing and indulging in the jealous bickerings incidental to courtship. Its flight song, reminiscent of that of the famed European skylark, is heard at such times.

Fall arrival, October 19 (1924) to November 30 (1933):
Average, 21 years, November 26.

Spring departure, March 20 (1932) to April 13 (1918):
Average, 17 years, March 25.

PRAIRIE HORNED LARK, *Otocoris alpestris praticola* Henshaw

Probably resident. We have records for every month except October, November and December. It has frequently been seen under conditions that suggest nesting at Albany Township, near Fleetwood, May 6, 1934; March 31-April 21, 1935, April 22, 1939; at Windsor Castle, May 26, 1935; and in 1938 at Molltown, where a nest was reported in the fairway of the Rich-Maiden golf course. (J.H. & R.Y.) It was also reported at the Reading Airport throughout the Spring of 1942, 1944 and 1946. (P.M., E.P., etc.) In winter and early spring it is frequently seen in flocks of *alpestris* and of Pipits, but in late spring and summer small

bands rove over the stubble and plowed fields throughout the Great Valley.

TREE SWALLOW, *Iridoprocne bicolor* (Vieillot)

Tolerably common transient, especially about watercourses. Occasionally rare or absent in fall.

Spring arrival, March 27 (1938) to April 27 (1917).

Average, 23 years, April 11.

Spring departure, April 26 (1931) to June 1 (1930).

Average, 20 years, May 8.

Fall arrival, July 24 (1938) to August 25 (1931).

Average, 18 years, August 9.

Fall departure, August 16 (1927-1936), to October 6 (1929).

Average, 14 years, September 9.

BANK SWALLOW, *Riparia riparia riparia* (Linnaeus)

An uncommon transient, and supposed formerly resident; now evidently entirely replaced by the following species. Less frequent in fall.

Spring arrival, April 18 (1923-1940) to May 14 (1939).

Average, 19 years, April 30.

Spring departure, April 18 (1923-30-40) to June 2 (1929).

Average, 16 years, May 12.

Fall arrival, July 12 (1936) to August 22 (1930).

Average, 8 years, August 4.

Fall departure, July 24 (1927) to September 1, (1929).

Average, 6 years, August 18.

A set of eggs taken near Fleetwood, May 22, 1902, by W. H. Leibelsperger is in the Reading Museum.

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis* (Audubon)

Common summer resident, breeding along watercourses and in cut banks throughout the county.

Arrival, April 5 (1936) to April 30 (1938).

Average, 20 years, April 14.

Departure, July 12 (1925) to August 6 (1933).

Average, 14 years, July 26.

Four sets of eggs, taken at Fleetwood, (5/31/08), Kutztown, (6/17/06), Moselem Springs, (6/16/07), and Virginsville, (5/26/14) are in the W. H. Leibelsperger collection.

BARN SWALLOW, *Hirundo erythrogaster* Boddaert

Abundant summer resident, breeding throughout the county.

Arrival, March 31 (1929) to April 21 (1935).

Average, 26 years, April 10.

Departure, August 24 (1922) to October 1 (1946).

Average, 22 years, September 12.

NORTHERN CLIFF SWALLOW, *Petrochelidon albifrons albifrons* (Rafinesque)

A rather rare and local summer resident and uncommon transient. There are usually several colonies in the neighborhood of Eckville, Albany Township, although they have diminished in numbers in recent years, and a much smaller colony has persisted near Seyferts for many years. This species was evidently much more abundant in the county fifty years ago, as L. W. Mengel found nests at Bernville, Stouchburg, Fleetwood and along the Wyomissing Creek in 1884-86. Eggs were found between May 29 and June 27. Four nests contained cowbird's eggs.

Arrival, April 5 (1936) to May 11 (1940).

Average, 21 years, April 29.

Departure, August 5 (1923) to September 28 (1929).

Average, 15 years, September 3.



PURPLE MARTIN, *Progne subis subis* (Linnaeus)

A tolerably common but local summer resident. While I have known of at least 20 colonies scattered throughout the county, during the past 25 years, at least half that number have ceased to exist through neglect or competition of Starlings and House Sparrows. Colonies near the following localities were active in the past five years: Angelica, Earlville, Elverson, Hamburg, Kutztown, Kempton, Lenhartsville, Plowville, Robesonia, Wernersville, Womelsdorf, and Fleetwood. My migration data are probably not representative, since no colonies remain in the immediate neighborhood of Reading.

Arrival, March 27 (1938) to April 19 (1924-1932).

Average, 23 years, April 10.

Departure, July 30 (1921-1922) to September 5 (1935).

Average, 13 years, August 14.



NORTHERN BLUE JAY, *Cyanocitta cristata cristata* (Linnaeus)

Abundant permanent resident, wintering in reduced numbers, or occasionally unrecorded all winter. A sudden and noticeable increase in the number of Blue Jays takes place each year between April 23 and May 7, but the screaming bands that fill the woods in September and October dwindle away quite gradually.

Sets of eggs are completed from May 10 to June 16.

NORTHERN RAVEN, *Corvus corax principalis* Ridgway

A rare transient. The only recent records are the following observations at Hawk Mountain.

1935, one on October 2 (M.B.); two on October 15 (M.B. and others).

1936, one on October 12 (M.B., etc.); 3 on November 8, 1 on November 13 (M.B.).

1939, one on October 14 (M.B., S.D., and R.Y.); two on October 15 (M.B.).

1943, one on October 5 (E.M.).

1944, one on October 29, (R.E., F.T.): one on November 5 (M. A. Linton).

C. K. Roland reported one at the Pinnacle, April 16, 1945.

Listed as a very rare straggler by D. Frank Keller, Warren, "Birds of Pennsylvania", 1890.

EASTERN CROW, *Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos* Brehm

A common permanent resident; abundant in winter

when flocks of many thousands forage in the Great Valley. Seidel's Hill in Bern Township was the site of a great crow roost for many years, drawing the birds for many miles in each direction.

A complete albino was seen several times in August 1924, near Bernhart's Reservoir. (A.E. and E.P.)

There are 54 sets of eggs taken in all parts of the County, in the Museum collection.

FISH CROW, *Corvus ossifragus* Wilson

Fairly common but local summer resident. A few individuals winter in the flocks of the common species, although they do not appear to associate during the summer.

There is a decided influx of Fish Crows between February 13, (1932-38) and March 20 (1926) and they usually become scarce after September.

A few pairs usually nest along the Wyomissing Creek near Reading, where several specimens have been taken, and a set of eggs was collected on May 12, 1933. (S.W.)

Since none of the older egg collectors mentioned the Fish Crow, and no sets were found among the rather large series of crow eggs taken in the county, we can safely assume that this Carolinian species has been extending its range from the lower river valleys in recent years.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE, *Penthestes atricapillus*, *atricapillus* (Linnaeus)

Resident, irregular, but usually common in winter. Rare one year out of four. Uncommon and local in summer.

It breeds regularly in the Pine Swamp, Albany Township, and at many points throughout the wooded portions of the county.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE, *Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis*
(Audubon)

Probably accidental. Two specimens in the Reading Museum were taken on Mt. Penn, April 7, 1891 and at Klapperthal, April 15, 1892.

Two were seen and heard in the Reading Museum Park on December 28, 1938 (E.P.).

I had an excellent observation of one at Moselem, September 20, 1941. This called repeatedly, and I was previously acquainted with the species in its normal habitat.

TUFTED TITMOUSE, *Baeolophus bicolor* (Linnaeus)

Resident, varying in abundance, but usually fairly common along the larger streams. They are seen most consistently about Birdsboro, at Hopewell, and White Bear.

At the present time (1946) they are as common locally as I have known them to be in the past 25 years.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH, *Sitta carolinensis carolinensis* Latham

Resident, common in winter, uncommon in summer. There is a decided decrease in the number of White-breasted Nuthatches during April (4-26) and a corresponding, but more gradual increase from late July until October. Occasionally, as in the winter of 1918-19 and 1930-31, none have been seen throughout the entire winter.

I have seen family groups consisting of parents and young as early as May 29 (1921, Maiden creek).



RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH, *Sitta canadensis* Linnaeus

An irregular transient and winter visitant. The status of this interesting little Nuthatch is hard to define. It has been recorded in Berks County during every month but July. Altogether unreported five years out of twenty-five, it may put in an appearance anywhere from August 26 (1921) to November 15 (1924), and has wintered in varying numbers in the pines on the southern slope of Mt. Penn 15 years out of the past 26. My latest spring date is May 22, although W. H. Leibelsperger observed it on one of the spurs of the Blue Mountains on June 6, 1907, and Francis Trembley saw one at the Hawk Mountain Sanctuary the last week in June, 1941.

Spring departure dates are May 8 (1930) to May 22 (1917).

Brown-Headed Nuthatch, *Sitta pusilla pusilla* Latham

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken at Boyertown, September 6, 1894.



BROWN CREEPER, *Certhia familiaris americana* Bonaparte

A fairly common winter resident.

Arrival, September 20 (1925) to November 10 (1935).

Average, 22 years, October 13.

Departure, April 10 (1921) to May 4 (1939).

Average, 23 years, April 21.

EASTERN HOUSE WREN, *Troglodytes aedon aedon* Vieillot

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival, April 14 (1922-29) to May 2 (1928).

Average, 25 years, April 25.

Departure, September 21 (1930) to October 14 (1923).

Average, 21 years, October 1.

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 21, (1885) and June 21 (1890).

EASTERN WINTER WREN, *Nannus hiemalis hiemalis* (Vieillot)

Fairly common winter resident, somewhat erratic, rare or unnoticed during the winters of 1919-1920 and 1920-1921, but abundant during the winters of 1922-1923 and 1932-33.

Arrival, September 21 (1925) to November 1, (1919).

Average, 21 years, October 9.

Departure, March 28 (1921) to May 4 (1930).

Average, 13 years, April 23.



CAROLINA WREN, *Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus*
(Latham)

Resident. Erratic in all parts of the county, but most frequent in the Hay Creek Valley and other favorable localities in the lower Schuylkill Valley. During the severe winters of 1917-1918, and again in 1932-1933 the Carolina Wren was practically exterminated in the county, and took several years to recover any measure of abundance. It is one of the most persistent singers, and its spirited carol is heard throughout the year.

Mr. Arthur Schultz described a nest that was built in a pile of iron shavings in one of the buildings of the Reading Bone Fertilizer plant near Neversink.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN, *Telmatodytes palustris palustris*
(Wilson)

An uncommon transient and rare and local summer resident. The only Berks County breeding colony with which I am familiar is in a marsh near Elverson, although Nune-macher and Rollman found several pairs summering in a marsh at Moselem during 1928. (The Elverson marsh was drained and converted into pasture in 1943, and the wrens have not been seen there since.)

The species is so local that few representative migration dates are available. My earliest date of arrival is April 28 (1932), and the latest date of departure, October 23 (1932).

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN, *Cistothorus stellaris*
(Naumann)

Transient, rare in spring; during some years not uncommon in favorable localities in late summer and fall.

I have but three spring records, May 21, 1931 and May 11, 1940, and May 17, 1941; but there are many fall observations between July 16 (1939) and October 17 (1932), most of the latter about Lake Ontelaunee, where it was fairly regular at that season until its haunts were destroyed.

On August 6, 1933 I found an unlined globular nest at Lake Ontelaunee, but there was no indication that it had been used, and its fresh condition suggested that it was simply one of the supernumerary nests that this and the former species are fond of building.

The only local specimen was found at Fifth and Laurel Streets, Reading, by Mr. Robert Morris on September 24, 1944.



EASTERN MOCKINGBIRD, *Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*
(Linnaeus)

Rare and local resident. One was seen at Cedar Top by G. H. Mengel, June 1, 1919. Since 1931 a small colony has

become established in Wyomissing Park, a suburb of Reading. Here they have bred each year, and I have seen their nests on two occasions.

At intervals they visited the berry-bearing trees and shrubs in the Museum Park. During the winter of 1945-46 the colony evidently moved elsewhere, and I have heard no reports of birds seen in this locality since.

This species was listed by John F. Hofmann in 1890, and the Reading Museum contains a specimen taken in Albany Township, June 2, 1888.

CATBIRD, *Dumetella carolinensis* (Linnaeus)

Abundant summer resident; occasionally resident.

Arrival, April 26 (1920-1939) to May 6 (1927, 1928, 1934).

Average, 25 years, May 2.

Departure, September 19 (1915) to November 26 (1925).

Average, 25 years, October 2.

A pair remained in a honeysuckle tangle near Never-sink until December 30, 1922 (H.M., B.N., E.P.). One was observed at Gibraltar, January 5, 1924, and two were noted at Birdsboro, November 26, 1925, at least one remaining until December 25. One was seen in the Museum Park December 5-10, 1935, and another on December 24, 1939 (S.G.).

BROWN THRASHER, *Toxostoma rufum* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival, April 10 (1921) to May 2 (1940).

Average, 24 years, April 27.

Departure, September 6 (1919) to October 3 (1926).

Average, 20 years, September 23.

One winter record, Museum Park, Jan. 30-Feb. 10, 1944. (W.H., E.P.)

Thirty-six local sets of eggs range from May 17 (1888) to June 16 (1885-1888). Reading Museum.



EASTERN ROBIN, *Turdus migratorius migratorius* Linnaeus

Resident, abundant in summer, usually uncommon and local in sheltered localities in winter.

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Reading Museum collection were taken between May 18 (1885) and June 10 (1888).

WOOD THRUSH, *Hylocichla mustelina* (Gmelin)

Common summer resident.

Arrival, April 25, (1920) to May 8 (1928).

Average, 24 years, May 3.

Departure, August 23 (1938) to September 28 (1924-1942).

Thirty-one sets of eggs collected locally range from May 19 (1887) to June 16 (1886).



EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH, *Hylocichla guttata faxoni* Bangs and Penard

Common transient and rather regular but local winter

resident in sheltered places. I have definite mid-winter records for 14 out of 26 years.

Fall arrival, October 6 (1937) to November 3 (1926).

Average, 19 years, October 16.

Departure, April 10 (1938) to May 7 (1922).

Average, 23 years, April 24.

There are two sets of eggs, supposedly of this species, in the L. W. Mengel collection. Of these, one appears to be correctly identified. It was taken in Bethel Township, May 27, 1885.

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH, *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*
(Tschudi)

Transient; common in spring; rather irregular in fall.

Spring arrival, May 3 (1925) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 24 years, May 8.

Spring departure, May 8 (1927) to June 13 (1925).

Average, 22 years, May 22.

Twenty-eight fall observations range between September 7 (1924) and October 10 (1930).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH, *Hylocichla minima aliciae* (Baird)

Transient, varying in abundance in spring; unrecorded seven years, and common four years out of 25.

I have thirteen spring records between May 8 (1936) and May 29 (1921 and 1927) and six fall records between September 20 (1926) and October 6 (1940).

VEERY, *Hylocichla fuscescens fuscescens* (Stephens)

Transient, common in spring; very rare in fall. May breed occasionally.

Spring arrival, April 30 (1936) to May 19 (1917 and 1926).

✓ Average, 25 years, May 8.

Spring departure, May 12 (1922, 1938) to May 27 (1918).

Average, 17 years, May 18.

Fall, September 16 (1923) (B.N.) September 4 and 5, 1927. (B.N. & E.P.)

A singing male was recorded at Birdsboro on June 3 and 10, 1917. (G.H.M. & E.P.), another at the Sixpenny Creek Picnic grounds, May 31, 1942 (E.P.), and two near Ludwig's Schoolhouse, July 5, 1942 (D.B. & B.N.). There are four sets of eggs labelled Wilson's Thrush in the L. W. Mengel collection. Two of these appear to be correctly identified. They were taken in Caernarvon Township, June 4, 1888, and near Pricetown, June 19, 1887.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD, *Sialia sialis sialis* (Linnaeus)

A fairly common summer resident, but decreasing in most sections since the advent of the Starling. It has wintered in small numbers at least twelve years out of the last 25. During years when not known to be resident it may put in an appearance anywhere from February 15 (1925) to March 17 (1934).

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between April 25 (1884) and May 15 (1887).



BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, *Poliophtila caerulea caerulea*
(Linnaeus)

Usually a rather rare straggler, but known to nest on one occasion. All recent records follow:

April 25, 1920	Pleasantville	G.H.M.
May 3, 1924	Mohnton	E.P.
April 24, 1927	White Bear	B.N. and E.P.
Aug. 28, 1932	Moselem	B.N. and, E.P.
Aug. 23, 1940	near Shartlesville	E.P.
May 6, 1945	3 along Hay Creek, Birdsboro	B.N.
May 5, 1946	Eckville	M.B.

May 12, 1946 a nest was discovered along Hay Creek, near the Birdsboro Reservoir. On May 19 it contained two eggs, and another pair of gnatcatchers was observed about a half mile from this locality. On June 16 four young left the nest. A.D., M.D., P.J., E.H., E.M., P.M., B.N., E.P. etc.

EASTERN GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET, *Regulus satrapa satrapa* Lichtenstein

A fairly common winter resident, more abundant transient.

Arrival, September 28 (1941) to November 1 (1919).

Average, 22 years, October 12.

Departure, March 13 (1921) to May 4 (1924).

Average, 20 years, April 16.

EASTERN RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, *Regulus calendula calendula* (Linnaeus)

Usually an abundant transient, occasional in winter when it has been recorded nine years out of 25. Some years rare or unrecorded in migration.

Spring arrival, March 8 (1939) to April 19 (1924-1939).

Average, 24 years, April 10.

Spring departure, April 21 (1936) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 23 years, May 7.

Fall arrival, September 13 (1941) to October 12 (1940).

Average, 20 years, September 30.

AMERICAN PIPIT, *Anthus spinoletta rubescens* (Tunstall)

Transient and occasional winter visitant in the larger valleys. Varies greatly in abundance; unrecorded some years, abundant others.

Most of the spring records are between March 17 (1929 and 1935) and May 12 (1935).

Fall records between September 22 (1935) and November 21 (1935).

I have three local winter records, as follows:

Blue Marsh, February 26, 1922, Fritz's Island, February 15, 1931, and Lake Ontelaunee, January 15, 1938.

CEDAR WAXING, *Bombycilla cedrorum* Vieillot

Resident, extremely erratic; often unrecorded during an entire winter, (11 years out of 25).

Five sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken in Albany Township between June 10 (1886) and June 19 (1888). Others have been taken at Fleetwood, June 10, 1905 and at Walnuttown, July 5, 1907 (W.H.L.)

NORTHERN SHRIKE, *Lanius borealis borealis* Vieillot

Rather rare winter visitant, frequently unrecorded; but

actually common during the winter of 1921-22, when 13 were observed. I have only 23 local observations in 26 years.

Extreme dates, October 30 (1921, B.N.) to March 29 (1922).



MIGRANT SHRIKE, *Lanius ludovicianus migrans* Palmer

Rare transient, most frequent in late summer. Has been known to winter on one occasion, in Albany Township, November 15-April 11 (1936-1937).

I have but eight spring records, all between March 27 (1943) and April 22 (1939).

Twelve fall records are between August 23 (1941) and November 2 (1937).

STARLING, *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* Linnaeus

Introduced from Europe. An abundant permanent resident, first appearing in numbers in the county about 1915. Between 1935 and 1938 they congregated in large numbers at a roost on the eastern slope of Mount Penn, where upwards of 35,000 roosted throughout the winter months, spreading over the surrounding country to feed.



WHITE-EYED VIREO, *Vireo griseus griseus* (Boddaert)

Uncommon and local summer resident, apparently fluctuating in numbers. During the summer of 1925 none were observed, although all its usual haunts were visited. At the present time, 1946, it seems to be recovering its former abundance.

Swamps at White Bear, Douglassville, Elverson and Gouglersville usually harbor one or more pairs each season.

Arrival, May 5 (1929-1942) to May 21 (1921-1922-1937).

Average, 21 years, May 14.

Latest observation, September 21, 1941, Museum Park.

Two sets of eggs, taken by W. H. Leibelsperger near Bowers, June 23, 1907 and near Fleetwood, May 30, 1911, are in the Reading Museum collection.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO, *Vireo flavifrons* Vieillot

Fairly common transient in spring, uncommon and local summer resident, seldom observed after June. Rather rare in fall. Apparently decreasing in the neighborhood of Reading.

Arrival, May 3 (1923-1930) to May 22 (1917).

Average, 23 years, May 10.

My latest fall record is September 17 (1935).

Data on a set of eggs in the Mengel Collection: Lenhartsville, June 17, 1887.

Its most typical habitat is the wooded hillsides along

Hay Creek, although it has nested in the Museum Park and City Park, Reading. Young scarcely able to fly were seen in the former place on June 18, 1929.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO, *Vireo solitarius solitarius* (Wilson)

Fairly common transient. One June record, June 3, 1939 at Eckville, on the Blue Mountain.

Spring arrival, April 9 (1922) to May 6 (1940).

Average, 21 years, April 24.

Spring departure, May 4 (1924) to May 23 (1926).

Average 21 years, May 10.

Fall arrival, September 17 (1927) to October 22 (1938).

Average, 18 years, October 3.

Fall departure, September 21 (1930) to November 1 (1925, B.N.).

Average, 16 years, October 14.

RED-EYED VIREO, *Vireo olivaceus* (Linnaeus)

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival, April 28 (1925) to May 21 (1931).

Average, 26 years, May 9.

Departure, September 29 (1940) to October 10 (1926).

Average, 20 years, September 24.

The Reading Museum collection contains 10 sets of eggs taken June 10 (1885) to June 20 (1887). Three of these contained cowbirds' eggs.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO, *Vireo philadelphicus* (Cassin)

Rare transient. All recent records follow:

September 18, 1927. Moselem. One carefully observed and studied intermittently for over an hour, during which every detail was carefully checked several times. The Warbling and Red-eyed Vireo and the Tennessee Warbler were present at the time, and at no time could I confuse the four. (E.P.)

September 11, 1934. Three at Hawk Mountain. (M.B.)

September 17, 1935. One in the Museum Park, Reading, seen at close range and in good light, and checked with a skin in the Museum immediately afterward. (E.P.)

September 10, 1936. One at Hawk Mountain (M.B.).

September 18, 1939. One well seen in the Museum Park, Reading. (E.P.)

September 24, 1939. One at Moselem. (E.P.)

EASTERN WARBLING VIREO, *Virco gilvus gilvus* (Vieillot)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival, April 26 (1925-1939) to May 17 (1924).

Average, 23 years, May 5.

Departure, September 27 (1939) to September 21 (1930).

Average, 14 years, September 10.



BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER, *Mniotilta varia* (Linnaeus)

Common transient and fairly common summer resident in all the more heavily wooded regions, such as the Hay Creek Valley, the Reading Hills, and the Blue Ridge.

In late July and August the Black and White Warbler leaves the heavier woodlands and becomes quite generally distributed throughout the more open sections.

Arrival, April 20 (1941) to May 7 (1940).

Average, 24 years, April 27.

Departure, August 29 (1940) to October 13 (1917).

Average, 21 years, September 15.

A set of eggs, taken near Fleetwood, June 2, 1903, is in the Museum collection.

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER, *Protonotaria citrea* (Boddaert)

A rare visitant in late spring and early summer. Four specimens in the Mengel collection bear the following data:

Tulpehocken near Reading	June 22, 1888.
Douglassville	July 6, 1889.
Fritz's Island	June 15, 1890.
Along the Maiden creek	June 10, 1892.

The only recent record is a male, in full song, discovered in a wooded swamp near Gibraltar, May 22, 1944 by Paul Martin. It was found at the same place on May 27 by Martin, Manning and Poole and was noted as late as June 4 by C. Kline.

WORM-EATING WARBLER, *Helminthos vermivorus* (Gmelin)

Locally common summer resident.

Arrival, April 25, (1939), casually March 28 (1939) to May 15 (1927).

Average, 20 years, May 9.

Latest fall date, September 3 (1917).

It breeds rather commonly on the well-wooded hillsides of the Hay Creek, Sixpenny and most of the gulleys of the South Mountains, as well as on the slopes of the Blue Ridge.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER, *Vermivora chrysoptera*
(Linnaeus)

Uncommon transient, doubtless a rare summer resident in the Blue Mountains. This species is undoubtedly more regular than is commonly supposed, but its fondness for dense scrubby thickets and the early fall migration cause it to be overlooked.

Eighteen spring records are between April 29 (1935) and

May 22 (1938). Average, May 9.

Sixteen fall records are between August 3 (1925) and September 8 (1923), average, August 21.

In addition I have two June observations in the Blue Mountain region that probably indicate breeding; June 21, 1921 at Mountain, and June 12, 1927 on top of the Mountain above Shartlesville.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER, *Vermivora pinus* (Linnaeus)

Rather common but local summer resident.

Arrival, May 5 (1929) to May 18 (1940).

Average, 17 years, May 10.

My latest observation is September 7 (1925), although Maurice Broun has reported it at Hawk Mountain on September 23, and November 8 and 13, 1936.

I have found it in June under conditions indicating probable breeding on Mt. Penn, at Birdsboro, Hopewell, White Bear, Monocacy, Adamstown, Gouglersville, Rittenhouse Gap, and in the Blue Mountain region.

Brewster's Warbler, *Vermivora leucobrachialis* (Brewster)
(Brewster)

There is one local record of the Brewster's Warbler, now regarded as a hybrid between the two former species; an individual seen at Moselem, August 21, 1932. (D.B. & E.P.)

TENNESSEE WARBLER, *Vermivora peregrina* (Wilson)

Transient, rather rare in spring; sometimes common in fall.

Twenty spring records are between May 5 (1935) and May 22 (1917).

Forty-five fall records are between August 30 (1930) and October 16 (1939, P.J.).

Years of special abundance were 1923, 1935 and 1942, and in seven years out of the last 23, none were observed in spring nor fall.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER, *Vermivora celata celata*
(Say)

Rare fall and winter visitant. One spring observation. L. W. Mengel took a specimen near Douglassville, October 22, 1889. All the more recent records follow:

Moselem	December 27, 1931	(B.N. & E.P.)
Birdsboro	January 17, 1932	(B.N. & E.P.)
Birdsboro	December 3, 1933	(A.D., M.D., F.H.)
Reading Museum Park	January 24, 1934	(F.C. & E.P.)
Reading Museum Park	May 5, 1934	(E.P.)
Moselem	December 23, 1934	(B.N.)

NASHVILLE WARBLER, *Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla*
(Wilson)

Fairly common transient and rare and local summer resident on the Blue Mountain.

Arrival, April 24 (1929) to May 9 (1933).

Average, 19 years, May 4.

Departure, September 17 (1922-1924) to October 16 (1932).

Average, 12 years, October 3.

On June 27, 1925, I found a male in full song on top of the Blue Mountain above Shartlesville (elevation 1400 ft.).

In June, 1927, several were heard in the same locality and on June 3, 1928, two or three were heard along Rattling Run, near Port Clinton. (B.N. & E.P.). Maurice Broun reported one found repeatedly during the breeding season of 1946 at Hawk Mountain.

NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER, *Compsothlypis americana pusilla* (Wilson)

Common transient.

Spring arrival April 29 (1925) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 24 years, May 7.

Spring departure, May 9 (1926-1937) to May 27 (1917).

Average, 24 years, May 16.

Fall arrival, August 29 (1940) to September 28 (1939).

Average, 20 years, September 17.

Fall departure, September 8 (1937) to October 21 (1939).

Average, 20 years, September 25.

A singing male was found near Greenawald, Albany Township, on June 30 and July 2, 1944, by Dr. A. J. C. Vaurie, and two singing birds were observed along Hay Creek June 30 and July 7, 1946 by Anna and Mary Deeter and Byron Nunemacher.

EASTERN YELLOW WARBLER, *Dendroica aestiva aestiva* (Gmelin)

Common summer resident.

Arrival, April 25 (1920) to May 7 (1928).

Average, 25 years, May 2.

Departure, August 6 (1933) to September 24 (1921).

Average, 12 years, August 28.

L. W. Mengel found a set of fresh eggs, June 2, 1885, in Bethel Township.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER, *Dendroica magnolia* (Wilson)

Common transient and rare summer resident in the Blue Mountains, although no nests have been found, to my knowledge.

Spring arrival, April 28 (1935) to May 26 (1941).

Average, 23 years, May 8.

Spring departure, May 10 (1936) to June 1 (1924).

Average, 25 years, May 21.

Fall arrival, August 24 (1930) to September 27 (1919).

Average, 22 years, September 4.

Fall departure, September 14 (1922) to October 9 (1932).

Average, 21 years, September 27.

On July 22, 1923 J. Hendel, B. Nunemacher and I found a singing male along the Blue Ridge in Albany Township. On June 28, 1924, at least three were found in a grove of

young Hemlock and White Pine, near Mountain, Albany Township. During visits made June 29 and August 1 in the same locality, efforts to locate the nest were fruitless, although the birds were seen. On June 25, 1927, B. Nune-macher and E. Rollman found one apparently nesting at Eckville.



CAPE MAY WARBLER, *Dendroica tigrina* (Gmelin)

Transient, rather irregular, and usually much less common in spring than in fall.

Spring arrival May 4 (1923) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 16 years, May 11.

Spring departure May 8 (1927) to May 26 (1917).

Average, 16 years, May 14.

Fall arrival August 25 (1929) to September 29 (1917).

Average, 17 years, September 16.

Fall departure, September 3 (1920) to October 21 (1939); (Nov. 20, 1943 E.P.).

Average, 17 years, September 28.



BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER, *Dendroica caerulescens caerulescens* (Gmelin)

Transient; common in spring, fairly common in fall.

Spring arrival April 29 (1935) to May 18 (1919).

Average, 24 years, May 16.

Fall records are scattered between August 28 (1922) and October (1921).

MYRTLE WARBLER, *Dendroica coronata* (Linnaeus)

Abundant transient; occasional in winter.

Spring arrival April 4 (1925) to April 30 (1938-1940).

Average, 25 years, April 21.

Spring departure, May 6 (1916) to May 27 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 16.

Fall arrival, August 13 (1922) to October 20 (1918).

Average, 24 years, September 28.

Fall departure, October 10 (1926-1936) to November 27 (1932).

Average, 23 years, October 27.

In addition we have thirteen scattered winter records. One flock of four was seen repeatedly at Birdsboro through the winter of 1932-33.

Audubon's Warbler, *Dendroica auduboni auduboni* (Townsend)

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken at Yost's Island, October 14, 1888.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER, *Dendroica virens virens* (Gmelin)

Very common transient. Rather rare and local summer resident in the few remaining pine groves along the Blue Ridge, especially in Albany Township. Levi W. Mengel found a nest containing three eggs in Bethel Township, May 29, 1885.

Arrival, April 26 (1925, B.N.) to May 17 (1941).

Average, 25 years, May 3.

Departure, September 22 (1915) to October 31 (1930).

Average, 22 years, October 7.

CERULEAN WARBLER, *Dendroica cerulea* (Wilson)

A rare transient. The only recent records follow:

Hampden Park, Reading	May	20, 1928	(B.N. & E.P.)
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Hay Creek	May	27, 1934	(D.B.)
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Hay Creek	May	21-30, 1936	(D.B. & A.D.)
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Hay Creek	May	25, 1937.	(B.N. & E.P.)
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Mt. Penn, Reading	May	6-7, 1938	(D.B. & B.N.)
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BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER, *Dendroica fusca* (Müller)

Fairly common transient in spring, uncommon in fall.

Spring arrival, April 25 (1925, B.N.) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 7.

Spring departure, May 2 (1938) to May 30 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 18.

Fall arrival, August 12 (1946, M.B.) to September 24 (1917-1938).

Average, 11 years, September.

Fall departure, September 12 (1920) to October 8 (1938).

Average, 9 years, September 24.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER, *Dendroica dominica dominica* (Linnaeus)

SYCAMORE WARBLER, *Dendroica dominica albilora* Ridgway

Casual. A specimen, originally labelled *dominica*, but

which proves on examination to be *albilora*, in the Reading Museum Collection was taken by L. W. Mengel on Never-sink Mountain, September 26, 1892. On May 12, 1939, D. Berkheimer reported a Yellow-throated Warbler on Mt. Penn, and on May 20 of the same year, Ralph Yerger observed one in the same locality. Since many of the north-eastern records of these birds have, upon comparison, proven to be of the latter race, and it is almost impossible to distinguish between the two in the field, it is obviously impossible to refer sight records to either subspecies.



CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER, *Dendroica pensylvanica*
(Linnaeus)

Common summer resident in scrub growth throughout the hilly portions of the county, especially abundant on the Blue Mountains. Elsewhere a common transient.

Arrival, April 26 (1925, B.N.) to May 15 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 5.

Departure, September 6 (1926) to October 7 (1917).
(Nov. 20, 1943, E.P.)

Average, 20 years, September 12.

Three sets of eggs in the Reading Museum Collection were taken in Albany and Bethel Townships between June 2 (1885) and June 15 (1907). I have also found it under

conditions that indicated breeding in the Hopewell Hills and throughout the South Mountain region, despite its reported rarity as a breeder in Chester (Burns) and Lancaster County (Beck).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER, *Dendroica castanea* (Wilson)

Transient, somewhat irregular, but often common.

Spring arrival, May 5 (1939) to May 21 (1928).

Average, 20 years, May 14.

Spring departure, May 16 (1926) to June 1 (1924).

Average, 20 years, May 19.

Fall arrival, August 23 (1925) to September 27 (1938).

Average, 14 years, September 9.

Fall departure, September 3 (1922) to October 16 (1932).

Average, 16 years, September 25.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER, *Dendroica striata* (Forster)

Common transient.

Spring arrival, May 2 (1933) to May 21 (1921).

Average, 23 years, May 12.

Spring departure, May 17 (1936) to June 13 (1926).

Average, 24 years, May 27.

Fall arrival, August 30 (1930) to September 27 (1931).

Average, 18 years, September 15.

Fall departure, September 29 (1920) to November 9 (1943, B.N.)

Average, 20 years, October 13.

NORTHERN PINE WARBLER, *Dendroica pinus pinus* (Wilson)

Uncommon transient in Spring. Not noticed in fall. We have only fourteen records during the past 20 years, between April 13 (1940, R.Y.) and May 1, (1926 and 1943, E.P.).

During the spring of 1924 this species was rather common, and was noted on five occasions by different observers.

On April 22, Harold Morris saw 6 at Hessian Camp, Reading.

Listed by John F. Hofmann in 1890.



NORTHERN PRAIRIE WARBLER, *Dendroica discolor discolor*
(Vieillot)

Transient, uncommon in spring; rare in fall.

Nine spring records between May 2 (1932, E.P.) and May 19, (1921, Mrs. J. A. Nichols, E.P.).

The only fall observation is September 17, 1924, (B.N. & E.P.).

Two specimens in the L. W. Mengel Collection were taken in Albany Township, April 30, 1886.

Listed by Hofmann in 1890.

WESTERN PALM WARBLER, *Dendroica palmarum palmarum*
(Gmelin)

An irregular transient, usually rare or absent. This subspecies passes through our region later in spring and earlier in fall than the Yellow Palm Warbler.

I have fifteen spring records, between April 22 (1943) and May 14 (1918), and seven fall records, between September 22 (1935) and October 6 (1935).

Two local specimens in the Reading Museum Collection were taken as follows: Greenawald, April 22, 1887. (L. W. Mengel), and Museum Park, May 5, 1932 (S.W.).

YELLOW PALM WARBLER, *Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea*
Ridgway

Transient, common in spring (75 records), uncommon in fall (14 records).

Spring arrival, April 4 (1932) to May 14 (1917).

Average, 23 years, April 15.

Spring departure, April 20 (1925) to May 14 (1917).

Average, 23 years, April 28.

Fall records are between October 3 (1937) and November 1 (1925 and 1935).

OVEN-BIRD, *Sciurus aurocapillus* (Linnaeus)

Abundant summer resident, breeding in woodlands throughout the country.

Arrival April 26 (1920) to May 7 (1933-1940).

Average, 24 years, May 3.

Last seen, September 5 (1926) to October 16 (1921).

Average, 18 years, September 20.

Unusually late records are one seen at Gibraltar, November 3, 1925 (B.N.) and another at Moselem on December 23, 1934. (B.N. & E.P.)

Sets of eggs in the Reading Museum Collection were taken between May 19 (1888) and June 15 (1886) although I have seen incomplete sets as late as June 16 (1917).

NORTHERN WATER-THRUSH, *Sciurus noveboracensis noveboracensis* (Gmelin)

Transient, common in spring, irregular in fall.

Spring arrival, April 22 (1917) to May 10 (1924).

Average, 24 years, May 1.

Spring departure, May 6 (1916) to May 28 (1934-1934).

Average, 24 years, May 19.

Twenty-two fall dates are between July 26 (1922) and October 1 (1928).

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH, *Sciurus motacilla* (Vieillot)

A fairly common but local summer resident, to be sought

wherever swift woodland streams tumble down the hillsides. Because of its local distribution migration data at hand are not representative. The first arrivals appear to be the breeding birds which immediately return to their breeding grounds, while transients may appear in other localities two or three weeks later.

My extreme dates are April 12 (1942) and August 15 (1925).

Two sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken at Fritz's Island, May 19, 1888 and in Caernarvon Township, June 4 (1888). I observed a family of young leaving the nest near Wernersville on June 4, 1921, and a pair feeding young recently out of the nest near Trap Rock, June 9, 1917.

I have also seen it under conditions that indicated breeding at Vinemont, Hopewell, Plow Church, Hamburg, Mountain, Eckville, Rattling Run and Topton.

KENTUCKY WARBLER, *Oporornis formosus* (Wilson)

Summer resident, rather rare and apparently restricted to damp rich woodlands in the southern part of the country. Even here it is rather erratic; present in a given locality one year, and absent the next.

Few migration data are available. My extreme dates are May 7 (1939) and August 20 (1920).

It has been found under conditions that indicated breeding near Mohnton (G. H. Mengel), near Trap Rock, Hay Creek, Sixpenny Creek, Hopewell and on Mt. Neversink in the Reading City limits, where Harold Morris called my attention to a small colony of at least three pairs, in 1940.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel found a nest with young in the Hay Creek Valley, June 14, 1924 and Paul Jensen discovered one with 3 eggs in the same place, June 16, 1946.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER, *Oporornis agilis* (Wilson)

Irregular fall transient, sometimes common as in 1922, when at least 10 were seen, but unrecorded 14 years out of

the last 27.

Twenty-one observations are between August 28 (1940) and October 2 (1927).

Average, all dates, September 17.

I took a specimen September 2, 1925, and H. E. Newkirk on September 25, 1928. There are no spring records.

MOURNING WARBLER, *Oporornis philadelphia* (Wilson)

Transient. Uncommon in spring, rare in fall.

Twelve spring records range from May 9 (1943) to June 1 (1924, S.B.).

Average, May 24.

On July 23, 1922, B. Nunemacher and I saw three or four, probably a family of the year, in shrubbery along Moselem Creek.

My only fall records are:

Museum Park, September 6, 1932

Museum Park, October 3, 1935

Samuel Wishnieski took a specimen along the Wyomissing Creek, May 18, 1933.



NORTHERN YELLOW-THROAT, *Geothlypis trichas brachydactyla* (Swainson)

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT, *Geothlypis trichas trichas* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident in marshy thickets throughout the county. It is also one of the common summer birds

in the dry scrub oak and huckleberry thickets on top of the Blue Ridge.

Arrival, April 26 (1939) to May 7 (1920-1921-1940).

Average, 25 years, May 3.

Departure, Sept. 13 (1925) to October 23 (1932).

Average, 22 years, October 4.

We have two winter records: December 18, 1920 (E.P.) and December 27, 1936 (H.M.).

Three sets of eggs in the Reading Public Museum Collection were taken between May 22 (1887) and July 21 (1914).

Since we are apparently in the area of intergradation between the two subspecies of Yellow-throat, breeding birds referable to both races have been taken locally. Most of these are clearly nearer to *trichas* but one taken at Stouchsburg, June 12, 1884, is much nearer *brachidactyla*; and another taken in Albany Township, June 16, 1886, combines the characters of both races. Undoubtedly many of the northern birds (*brachidactyla*) pass through this area during the migrations.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT, *Icteria virens virens* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common summer resident. Nests throughout the country wherever sufficiently dense thickets are to be found.

Arrival, May 6 (1923, 1924, 1928) to May 19 (1917).

Average, 24 years, May 10.

Representative departure dates are few, as the Chat is extremely secretive and is seldom noted after the conclusion of its song period, late in July. The latest local date is September 25 (1927-1939). Thirty-three sets of eggs in the Mengel Collection were taken between May 20 (1896) and June 23 (1894). Two contained Cowbirds' eggs.



HOODED WARBLER, *Wilsonia citrina* (Boddaert)

Summer resident, common along the Blue Ridge, and occasionally nesting in various localities in the southern part of the country, elsewhere a rather rare transient.

Extreme migration dates are May 3 (1909, G. H. Mengel), to October 5 (1939, R. Yerger).

W. H. Leibelsperger and F. Bush found a nest containing four fresh eggs near Greenawald, June 15, 1907, and Paul Jensen located another containing the same number of eggs on Mt. Neversink on May 31, 1942. I have found it under breeding conditions along the length of the Blue Ridge from west of Strausstown to the Lehigh County line. Near the latter place I have heard 15 singing males in the course of a morning's walk. It has also been seen during the breeding season at Sixpenny Park, at Trap Rock, on Mt. Penn, and at Ludwig's Schoolhouse near Fleetwood.

WILSON'S WARBLER, *Wilsonia pusilla pusilla* (Wilson)

Transient; rather common in spring; less regular but often common in fall.

Spring arrival, May 4 (1938) to May 22 (1917-1920).

Average, 23 years, May 12.

Spring departure, May 13 (1923-1925) to May 27 (1928).

Average, 23 years, May 19.

Fall arrival, Aug. 28 (1929) to September 17 (1935).

Average, 12 years, September 5.

Fall departure, August 30 (1933) to October 1 (1940).

Average, 12 years, September 18.

CANADA WARBLER, *Wilsonia canadensis* (Linnaeus)

A common transient and locally common summer resident in the Blue Mountains.

Arrival, May 7 (1922) to May 19 (1916-1917).

Average, 24 years, May 13.

Departure, August 25 (1917) to September 21.

Average, 15 years, September 5.

I have found it throughout June, apparently nesting in a number of localities along the Blue Ridge. It is probably the commonest species in the rhododendron thickets along Rattling Run, where at least twelve singing males were counted on June 13, 1927. A few pairs are always to be found at Northkill Gap, Stony Run, Eckville and in other similar localities in that region. To the best of my knowledge, no local nests have been found.



AMERICAN REDSTART, *Setophaga ruticilla* (Linnaeus)

An abundant transient and local summer resident.

Arrival, April 26 (1925) to May 13 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 5.

Departure, September 1 (1918) to October 9 (1932).

Average, 22 years, September 20.

An unusually late individual was captured in Wyomissing on December 1, 1934.

The valley of Hay Creek is a typical breeding locality for this sprightly little Warbler. It has also bred in recent years in Hessian Camp, in the city of Reading, at Mohnton, Wyomissing, near Temple and at Rittenhouse Gap.

Two sets of eggs in the Mengel Collection were taken on May 27, 1899 at Tuckerton.

ENGLISH SPARROW, *Passer domesticus domesticus* (Linnaeus)

An abundant resident in all settled districts.

BOBOLINK, *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common transient and local summer resident. Unlike its companion of the upland grassfields, the Upland Plover, the Bobolink has shown a decided local increase in the past 25 years.

Spring arrival, May 1 (1932) to May 15 (1921).

Average, 19 years, May 7.

Fall departure, Aug. 24 (1920) to Oct. 4 (1931).

Average, 18 years, Sept. 17.

During recent years it has been found under conditions that indicate breeding at Douglassville, Moselem, Lake Ontelaunee, Fleetwood, and Shartlesville. In most localities it shifts its habitat from year to year, but at Lake Ontelaunee a colony has apparently been well established since 1929 and returns year after year.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK, *Sturnella magna magna* (Linnaeus)

Resident, common in summer, local in winter; occasionally rare or absent during the latter season.

Meadowlark return to the uplands between February 23 (1930) and March 21 (1937). Average, 24 years, March 9.

They usually leave the higher ground in numbers during November, leaving a few scattered groups to winter.

Complete sets of eggs have been found between May 15

(1884) and June 24 (1894), L. W. Mengel Collection.

Yellow-Headed Blackbird, *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*
Bonaparte)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

EASTERN RED-WING, *Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus* (Linnaeus)

Abundant summer resident. Occasional in winter.

When not wintering, arrival is usually between Feb. 23 (1930) and March 28 (1920). Average, 23 years, March 10.

They leave the nesting meadows from Aug. 10 (1923) to Sept. 9 (1928), but transient flocks pass through our area through October, November, and December, and a few remain in the springy marshes through the winter.

Thirty-two sets of eggs have been taken in the county from May 8 (1884) to June 14 (1890).



ORCHARD ORIOLE, *Icterus spurius* (Linnaeus)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival, May 1 (1938) to May 24 (1928). Average, 24 years, May 9.

Last seen, July 10 (1938) to Aug. 29 (1922). Average, 16 years, July 31.

Eight sets of eggs have been found between May 21 (1889) and June 8 (1890).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE, *Icterus galbula* (Linnaeus)

Common summer resident.

Arrival, May 1 (1938-1946) to May 12 (1917).

Average, 25 years, May 5.

Departure, Aug. 16 (1936) to Sept. 9 (1922). Average 20 years, Aug. 26.

G. H. Mengel reported an individual near Mohnton late in December, 1916. This bird was feeding on the frozen apples that remained on the trees.

Complete sets of eggs have been found between May 28 (1900) and June 7 (1887). L. W. Mengel.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD, *Euphagus carolinus* (Müller)

Transient, fairly common in spring, irregular in fall; and occasional winter visitant.

Spring arrival, February 10 (1929) to March 30 (1933).

Average, 23 years, March 19.

Spring departure, April 7 (1940) to May 15 (1921). Average, 23 years, April 27.

Fall records are between September 22 (1929) and November 20 (1920).

Two were seen several times at Carsonia Park between January 23 and February 1, 1921. (A. P. Deeter, G. H. Mengel, and E. L. Poole.) One was observed at Charming Forge, February 10, 1929, and another at Lake Ontelaunee, December 27, 1936 and January 1, 1937.



PURPLE GRACKLE, *Quiscalus quiscula quiscula* (Linnaeus)

Abundant summer resident; usually rare or absent in winter.

During years when they are not known to have wintered, the bulk return movement takes place between February 22 (1930) and March 14 (1941).

The bulk fall departure takes place between October 7 (1922) and November 10 (1935).

During the winters of 1936-37 to 1940-41 flocks of considerable size roosted with the Starlings at Antietam. In recent years however, they seem to have abandoned this practice.

Sets of eggs in the Reading Museum were taken between April 26 (1906) and June 16 (1893).

BRONZED GRACKLE, *Quiscalus quiscula aeneas* (Linnaeus)

Status not definitely known. Probably a fairly common transient.

Opportunities of satisfactorily determining this subspecies in life are comparatively rare.

On March 3, 1937 approximately one third of a flock of 300 Grackles observed at close range, appeared to be of this race. Otherwise I have only six definite close-range sight records, although I have frequently seen birds that I felt

reasonably sure were Bronzed Grackles, or intermediate closely approaching *aeneas*.

On April 14, 1932 I pointed out a bird in the Museum grounds to S. Wishnieski, who collected it for the Museum.

EASTERN COWBIRD, *Molothrus ater ater* (Boddaert)

Abundant summer resident. Occasional in winter.

During the winters of 1936-37 and 1938-39, large numbers of Cowbirds, estimated at as many as 1,000 on January 2, 1938, roosted with the starlings in the Antietam pines.

When not known to be wintering, spring arrival dates are from Feb. 24 (1935) to March 29 (1931). Average, 22 years, March 17.

Departure, Sept. 23 (1927) to Nov. 13 (1929 and 1930). Average, 13 years, October 24.

Eggs have been found locally in nests of the following species: Field Sparrow (21), Chipping Sparrow (16), Song Sparrow (10), Indigo Bunting (8), Phoebe (5), Cliff Swallow (4), Vesper Sparrow (4), Wood Pewee, Goldfinch and Barn Swallow (2 each).

SCARLET TANAGER, *Piranga erythromelas* Vieillot

Fairly common summer resident, breeding in woodlands throughout the county.

Arrival, April 29 (1923) to May 19 (1917). Average, 25 years, May 10.

Departure, Sept. 3 (1920) to Oct. 3 (1926). Average, 14 years, September 21.

Eight sets of eggs in the Mengel Collection were taken between June 6 and June 18 (1884).

SUMMER TANAGER, *Piranga rubra rubra* (Linnaeus)

A rare transient. Old records would seem to indicate that it may have bred in the county.

Raymond Seibert reported a pair seen near Bethel in May, 1931.

A male was seen near the Birdsboro reservoir on May 20, 1936 by D. Berkheimer.

There are also several sight records of females or young birds seen at Hawk Mountain during the fall. (M.B.)

Two specimens were taken locally by L. W. Mengel; in Albany Twp., June 17, 1886; the other at Blue Marsh, June 5, 1887. It was also listed by John F. Hofmann in 1890.

EASTERN CARDINAL, *Richmondia cardinalis cardinalis*
(Linnaeus)

Tolerably common resident, especially in the southern half of the county.

Four sets of eggs in the local collections were taken between May 30 (1908) and June 20 (1887).

On May 12, 1917, S. D. Green and I found two nests each containing two recently hatched young along the Angelica Creek, and on June 14, 1924, I saw two young, just out of the nest, near Douglassville.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK, *Hedymeles ludovicianus*
(Linnaeus)

Tolerably common transient and local summer resident.

Arrival, April 28 (1935) to May 17 (1917). Average, 25 years, May 7.

Departure, Sept. 6 (1936) to Oct. 6 (1918 A.D.). Average, 19 years, Sept. 19.

L. W. Mengel took a set of eggs at Lenhartsville, June 16, 1887, and W. H. Leibelsperger took two sets near Fleetwood.

John Eshelman showed me two occupied nests at Oley Furnace in 1931.

Observations indicating probable breedings have been made at Walnuttown, July 2-4, 1919 (M. E. Deeter), Rittenhouse Gap, June 10, 1920 (E.L.P.) Temple, June 8, 1921 and July 11, 1925, Trap Rock, June 7, 1924 and July 4, 1925 (B.N.), Blandon June 23, 1940 (E.L.P.), and on the Six-

penny Picnic Grounds, May 31, 1942 (E.L.P.).

EASTERN BLUE GROSBEAK, *Guiraca caerulea caerulea*
(Linnaeus)

Casual. One seen in Charles Evans Cemetery by G. H. Mengel in May, about 1925, constitutes our only recent record. (Mr. Mengel writes that he has lost the exact date.)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

INDIGO BUNTING, *Passerina cyanea* (Linnaeus)

A common summer resident.

Arrival, May 4 (1920-1936-1942) to May 19 (1917).
Average, 25 years, May 10.

Departure, Sept. 4 (1938) to Oct. 10 (1926). Average,
21 years, Sept. 24.

Of 29 sets of eggs in the Mengel collection taken between May 21 (1897) and July 3 (1886), 7 contained Cowbirds' eggs.

On August 24, 1920, I found a nest containing three fresh eggs.

DICKCISSEL, *Spiza americana* (Gmelin)

Casual. The following are the only recent occurrences with which I am acquainted.

A singing male visited Lake Ontelaunee in 1936, remaining in the same locality from July 26 to August 22, and was seen by many local observers. (D.B., F.C., B.N., S.G., C.R., C.K., E.L.P., etc.)

Another was reported at Albany on May 5, 1937, by C. K. Roland, and a third at the latter place from June 1, to June 7, 1943.

It was listed as occurring locally by John F. Hofmann.

EASTERN EVENING GROSBEAK, *Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina* (Cooper)

Rather rare winter visitant. The following are all the local records with which I am familiar.

Birdsboro, April 15-22, 1917. Two birds seen on the former and one on the latter date by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel and A. P. and M. E. Deeter.

Van Reed's Mill, December 26, 1919. E.P.

Antietam, February 29, 1920 (18) G.H.M.

Frush Valley, February 2, 1920 (12 seen) R. Albright.

Kissinger's Church, March 7, 1920, (2) S.D.G., E.L.P.

Red Bridge, on the Tulpehocken, March 14, 1920, E.L.P.

Antietam, January 1, 1930, G.H.M.

Spring Valley, January 5, 1930 G.H.M.

Antietam, January 25, 1930, E.L.P.

Birdsboro, February 9, 1930, B.N.

Hawk Mountain, November 11, 1941 (6) M.B.

" " November 15, 1941 (15) M.B.

" " November 16, 1941 (10) M.B.

Birdsboro, December 23, 1945 (26) B.N.

" December 27, (4) E.P. and S.W.

Lake Ontelaunee, December 15, 1945 (3) D. Holt.

Museum Park, Jan. 18, 1946 (2) F. Minker.

Hessian Camp, Jan. 26, 1946 (5) P.J. & E.M.

Monocacy, Jan. 27, 1946 D.B. & B.N.

Mt. Penn, Jan. 27, 1946 (5) P.J. & E.M.

Along the Cacoosing Creek, Feb. 17, 1946 (20-25) H. Wilkens.

Museum Park, March 21, 1946 (6) L.D., S.W.

Kutztown, May 3-13, 1946 (25) S. Gundy.

EASTERN PURPLE FINCH, *Carpodacus purpureus purpureus* (Gmelin)

Common transient and fairly common winter resident, but somewhat irregular and occasionally absent during the latter season.

Fall arrival, Aug. 23 (1929) to Nov. 3, (1918).

Average, 22 years, Oct. 8.

Spring departure, Apr. 29 (1939) to May 31 (1924).

Average, 19 years, May 8.

CANADIAN PINE GROSBEAK, *Pinicola enucleator leucura*
(Müller)

Rather rare winter visitant.

Conrad Roland reported a flock at Hessian Camp, Reading, Feb. 13, 1916.

Between January 25 and March 3, 1922, a flock of at least ten remained about the Hessian Camp on the southern slope of Mt. Penn, where they were frequently seen by all the local observers. During the following winter (1923-24) a flock of eight remained at Antietam from November 25 until February 3, being seen on numerous occasions by many interested persons.

January 1, 1930, two at High's Woods, 1 collected by S.W.

January 2, 1930, nine at Antietam, E.L.P.

January 19, 1930, twelve at Antietam, E.L.P.

February 2, 1930, two at Birdsboro, E.L.P.

January 22, 1937, one at Mt. Penn, R.Y.

November 11, 1941, six at Hawk Mountain, M.B.

November 15, 1941, sixteen at Hawk Mountain, M. B.

November 16, 1941, ten at Hawk Mountain, M. B.

November 23, 1943, one at Albany, C.R.

January 10-11, 1944, one at Oley Furnace, J.E.

January 27 to February 17, 1946, nine at Hessian Camp, D.B., B.N., P.J., E.M., E.P., D.S., etc.

COMMON REDPOLL, *Acanthis linaria linaria* (Linnaeus)

Rather rare and irregular winter visitant; occasionally rather common. Recorded six years out of 25. Visitations of numbers occurred in 1917 (Dec. 31 to Mar. 16), in 1920 when it was frequently recorded from Feb. 8 to Mar. 14, and in 1936 (Jan. 26 to Mar. 1). Small groups were also noted on the following dates: March 10, 1923, March 10, 1928, March 26, 1939, and a large flock of 75 at Dengler

Hill on January 30, 1944. (H.M.)

In this locality Redpolls appear to be partial to alders and Black Birch, but also feed on the seeds of Evening Primrose and other herbaceous plants.

GREATER REDPOLL, *Acanthis linaria rostrata* (Coues)

A specimen in the L. M. Mengel collection, taken on Mt. Penn, January 17, 1888, proves to be of this subspecies.

NORTHERN PINE SISKIN, *Spinus pinus pinus* (Wilson)

An irregular winter visitant; sometimes very common, as in the winter of 1922-23, when large flocks were seen frequently from October 22 to May 14. It has been noted in the county 18 years out of 25, on dates ranging from Sept. 17 (1935) to May 14 (1923). The name Pine Siskin is somewhat of a misnomer as far as this locality is concerned, as the seeds of Black Birch and Hemlock are easily its favorite food; those of Alder, Goldenrod and several common weeds also furnishing a fair proportion.



EASTERN GOLDFINCH, *Spinus tristis tristis* (Linnaeus)

An abundant resident, but occasionally scarce in winter.

Eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken between May 23 (1894) and June 10 (1888). Two sets contain Cowbirds' eggs.

RED CROSSBILL, *Loxia curvirostra pusilla* Gloger

Now a rare winter visitant, usually seen in groves of

pine and hemlock, but occasionally feeding on frozen apples, or even weed seeds. All the recent records follow:

1916, Dec. 10. Jacksonwald. (5 or 6) A.D. and G.H.M.

1922, Dec. 2. Hessian Camp, Mt. Penn. (12) and Antietam (15). H.M. and E.P.

1923, Jan. 17. Hessian Camp, Mt. Penn. (7) E.P.

Jan. 23. Antietam Gorge, 1 with large flock of *leucoptera*. E.P.

1925, Nov. 26, Birdsboro. (1) E.P.

1929, Mar. 27, City Park, Reading. B.N.

1941, Jan. 26, Feb. 1 and 8. Antietam Gorge. H.M. and E.P.

Prior to 1897 or 1898, Crossbills are said to have been quite abundant in the Hessian Camp Section of Mt. Penn, and several local people made a lucrative business of trapping and selling them for cage birds. According to my informants, Messrs. Albert Mittower and Harry Wickel, a male bird was captured and placed in a cage, which was so constructed that the decoy occupied a central compartment surrounded by a number of others accessible to the outside. These could be sprung by cords in the hands of the trapper. As many as two hundred birds are said to have been captured in this manner in the space of a day or two.

Newfoundland Crossbill, *Loxia curvirostra perna* Bent

A specimen was taken near Lenhartsville, April 16, 1886, by L. W. Mengel.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL, *Loxia leucoptera* Gmelin

A rare winter visitant.

1920, Jan. 18-25. A pair remained for at least a week about the hemlock grove at Antietam. (G.H.M., E.L.P.)

1923, Jan. 20 to Feb. 18. A flock varying on different days from 30 to 100 or more were seen frequently in the

Antietam hemlocks. On Jan. 26 I collected three out of the flock and found them much emaciated. These are now in the Reading Public Museum collection. (E.L.P.)

1923, Feb. 11. Gethsemani Cemetery. 5 or 6. (Mrs. G.H.M.)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.



RED-EYED TOWHEE, *Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus* (Linnaeus)

Common summer visitant. Occasionally resident. Breed most abundantly in the scrub growth on the Blue Mountains and in brushy woodlands throughout the entire region.

Arrival, April 10 (1929) to May 1 (1938). Average, 25 years, April 24.

Departure, Oct. 2 (1927) to Dec. 1 (1937). Average, 23 years, Oct. 17.

There are also a number of winter records as follows: Feb. 11, 1923, Tulpehocken Creek, a freshly killed bird. (S.B.) Two birds wintered at Birdsboro during the severe winter of 1924-25. One or both were seen on December 28, Feb. 15, and March 1. (A.D., H.M., B.N., E.L.J.) Jan. 30, 1938, Antietam. (B.N., E.L.P.) Dec. 22, 1940, Lake Ontelaunee, (S.W.).

Twenty-six eggs in the Mengel collection bear data from May 21 (1889) to June 19 (1887).

EASTERN SAVANNAH SPARROW, *Passerculus sandwichensis savanna* (Wilson)

A common transient and local summer resident. Casual in winter.

Spring arrival, March 12 (1932) to April 19 (1941).

Average, 24 years, March 27.

Transients leave by May 13, when not known to be breeding.

Fall departure, October 6 (1935) to November 10 (1932). Average, 22 years, October 23.

We have but two December records both from Lake Ontelaunee; December 4, 1932 and December 23, 1934.

During the summer of 1929, three or four pairs rested in the neighborhood of Lake Ontelaunee. B. Nunemacher and I frequently saw them carrying food, and on July 14, found young just out of the nest and scarcely able to fly. This little colony apparently become established and returned to the same meadows to breed for several years, although none have been noticed since 1941.

One seen on the recently drained Elverson marsh, May 27, 1944, may have been a late transient.

EASTERN GRASSHOPPER SPARROW, *Ammodramus saviarum australis* Maynard

A fairly common summer resident.

Arrival, April 4 (1929) to May 2 (1937, 1940). Average, 23 years, April 22.

Last observed, Sept. 1 (1929) to Oct. 17 (1927). Average, 11 years, Sept. 28.

Seven sets of eggs in local collections were taken from May 25 (1881-1891) to July 2 (1900). One nest contained a Cowbird's eggs.

EASTERN HENSLOW'S SPARROW, *Passerherbulus henslowi sussurans* Brewster

A rather rare and local summer resident; very erratic, seen at a number of localities for several succeeding years and then apparently very rare or absent for another period.

Listed by John F. Hofmann in 1890.

Regarded as a very rare transient prior to 1934, a colony was reported by C. K. Roland at Windsor Castle, July 4, 1934. On June 23, 1934, Roland and Nunemacher heard two in an old field along the edge of the Blue Mountains near Degler's Gap. I found them in the same place three days later. Since then they have been noticed at a number of localities under conditions that indicate breeding, although no nests appear to have been found; as at Lake Ontelaunee, Tuckerton, White Bear, Cold Run, Beckersville, 1½ miles N. W. of Elverson, and at Camp Joy just outside of the Reading city limits. Twenty-nine observations, the earliest April 28 (1941); the latest, September 13 (1936).

NELSON'S SPARROW, *Ammodramus caudacuta nelsoni* (Allen)

A rare transient, apparently restricted to marshes. My reason for retaining it in this list is that the first mentioned observation enabled me to make a field sketch which was unmistakably identifiable as of this bird, and was accepted by Dr. Witmer Stone. All records follow:

Oct. 18, 1924	One studied at close range and under ideal conditions at Moselem	(E.L.P.)
June 3, 1930	One at Lake Ontelaunee	(E.L.P.)
Sept. 27, 1931	One at Lake Ontelaunee	(E.L.P.)
Sept. 28, 1932	One at Lake Ontelaunee	(E.L.P.)
Oct. 14, 1932	Two at Lake Ontelaunee	(E.L.P.)

The localities in which most of these observations were made have since been destroyed—either flooded or drained.

NORTHERN SEASIDE SPARROW, *Ammospiza maritima maritima* (Wilson)

A specimen in the Reading Public Museum is labelled "Fritz's Island, April 30, 1887—L. W. Mengel." Since this specimen is in worn late summer plumage, I strongly suspect that there may have been some error in the labelling.

One was observed under very favorable conditions at Lake Ontelaunee, following a northeast storm on Oct. 28, 1936, by Anna P. Deeter.

EASTERN VESPER SPARROW, *Pooecetes gramineus gramineus* (Gmelin)

A common summer resident; one winter record, Maiden-creek, Dec. 19, 1943. (A.S. & E.P.)

Arrival, March 20, (1927) to April 19 (1941). Average, 25 years, March 29.

Departure, Oct. 3 (1937) to Nov. 10 (1923). Average, 23 years, Oct. 23.

Sets of eggs in the Reading Public Museum were taken from May 21 (1889) to June 2 (1888), although I have seen fresh eggs as late as July 20, 1917. Of 23 sets in the Mengel collection, five contain Cowbird's eggs.

SLATE-COLORED JUNCO, *Junco hyemalis hyemalis* (Linnaeus)

An abundant winter visitant. Easily our most abundant winter bird. Possibly an occasional resident.

Arrival, Sept. 16 (1923) to Oct. 24 (1936). Average, 26 years, Oct. 7.

Departure, April 6 (1919-1941) to May 8 (1920-1932). Average, 26 years, April 26.

Samuel Guss reports a pair seen at the Pinnacle in June, several years ago.

EASTERN TREE SPARROW, *Spizella arborea arborea* (Wilson)

An abundant winter visitant.

Arrival, Oct. 20 (1929) to Nov. 25 (1934). Average, 24

years, Nov. 11.

Departure, March 5 (1921) to April 24 (1926). Average, 25 years, April 1.

EASTERN CHIPPING SPARROW, *Spizella passerina passerina* (Bechstein)

An abundant summer resident.

Arrival, March 29 (1922) to April 28 (1940). Average, 26 years, April 13.

Departure, Oct. 9 (1930) to Nov. 17 (1917). Average, 22 years, Oct. 21.

Sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 16 (1885) and June 16 (1886). Of 24 sets, 10 contained Cowbirds' eggs.



EASTERN FIELD SPARROW, *Spizella pusilla pusilla* (Wilson)

An abundant summer resident; occasionally resident.

Arrival, March 7 (1934) to April 19 (1942). Average, 26 years, March 28.

Departure, October 10 (1926) to Nov. 30 (1924). Average, 25 years, Oct. 27.

There are also a number of winter records as follows:

Carsonia (2), Jan. 1, 1924. E.L.P.
Wyomissing, Jan. 2, 1928.
Beckersville, Jan. 15, 1933.
Birdsboro, Dec. 27, 1936.
Birdsboro (3), Jan. 3, 1927.
Hopewell, Jan. 9, 1938.
Birdsboro, Dec. 24, 1939.
Birdsboro, frequently, Dec. 22, 1946-Jan. 12, 1947.

Sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 15 (1887) and July 14 (1885). Of 33 sets, seven contained Cowbirds' eggs.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW, *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* (Forster)

An uncommon transient. Occasionally rather common in spring.

Spring migration dates (31) are between May 5 (1929) and May 20 (1939).

Fall dates (30) are between September 27 (1938) and October 26 (1921).

May 17 and 18, 1917, brought an unparalleled visitation of White-crowned Sparrows to this locality. The lawns of City Park, Reading, were enlivened by numbers of these birds, and there were many others on the lawns along Hill Road. During other seasons this sparrow is usually solitary, although small bands of from three to six are sometimes seen.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmelin)

An abundant transient, regular but local winter resident, and has occurred in midsummer.

Fall arrival, Sept. 17 (1933) to Oct. 25 (1935). Average, 27 years, Sept. 28.

Spring departure, May 17 (1925) to May 26 (1935). Average, 26 years, May 14.

A singing male was heard and seen near Hamburg on

June 23 and July 4, 1922. As this bird was in the same spot on both occasions it is possible that it had a mate and nest nearby, although they were not seen. R. W. Berky, of Bally, reported a nest observed at "Nature Friends" near Landis Store, May 17, 1938.

EASTERN FOX SPARROW, *Passerella iliaca iliaca* (Merrem)

A tolerably common transient. Occasional in winter.

Spring arrival, Feb. 24 (1924) to March 22 (1931). Average, 23 years, March 7.

Spring departure, March 15 (1928) to April 13 (1930). Average, 25 years, April 1.

Fall arrival, Oct. 16 (1920, 1927) to Nov. 9 (1917, 1940). Average, 22 years, Oct. 30.

Fall departure, Oct. 28 (1933) to Nov. 27 (1932). Average, 20 years, Nov. 16.

At least two stragglers were seen at Birdsboro, Dec. 25, 1925 and Jan. 1 and 23, 1926, (E.L.P.). One wintered in the Reading Museum Park and was seen frequently from Dec. 30, 1929 to Feb. 25, 1930. One on Mt. Penn on Dec. 27, 1938, (M.S.). One at Antietam, Jan. 26, 1941, (H.M.).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW, *Melospiza lincolni lincolni* (Audubon)

An uncommon transient, easily overlooked unless especially looked for. It occurs only during the height of the spring migration, but straggles through over a considerable period of time in fall. All local records follow:

Museum Park,	May 8-12, 1930. E.L.P.
Museum Park,	May 10-13, 1932. (Specimen taken, E.L.P., S.W.)
Angelica,	May 14, 1933. (Specimen taken, S.W.)
Museum Park,	May 12, 1934. E.L.P.
Museum Park,	May 3, 15, 1937. E.L.P.
Moselem and Bern-	
hart's,	Sept. 18, 1927. E.L.P. (2)
Museum Park,	Sept. 23, 1929.
Lake Ontelaunee	Sept. 29, 1935. (2, B.N., E.L.P.)
Museum Park,	Oct. 8, 1935. (E.L.P.)

Lake Ontelaunee	Oct.	11, 1936 (E.L.P.)
Museum Park,	Oct.	24, 1939. (E.L.P.)
Lake Ontelaunee	Sept.	21, 1940. (2, E.L.P.)
Museum Park,	May	12, 1942. (E.P.)
Lake Ontelaunee	Sept.	29, 1946. (A.D., M.D., B.N.)

It was listed by John Hofmann in 1890.

SWAMP SPARROW, *Melospiza georgiana* (Latham)

Resident; common as a transient, rather rare in winter, and extremely local as a summer resident.

Spring transients arrive. March 14 (1926) to May 1 (1930-1938). Average, 21 years, April 1.

Spring transients depart, May 5 (1929) to May 21 (1928-1931). Average, 22 years, May 12.

Fall transients arrive Aug. 11 (1935) to Oct. 14 (1934). Average, 24 years, Sept. 29.

Fall transients depart Oct. 22 (1920-1922) to Nov. 13 (1926).

Average, 13 years, Oct. 27.

The only local breeding colony is established in a marsh along the extreme southeastern boundary of the county, near Elverson. Probably 12 or 15 pairs bred there each season from 1938 to 1941, although I know of no nests or eggs being found.

I have twelve winter records in 8 different years from Moselem, Peter's Creek, etc.

EASTERN SONG SPARROW, *Melospiza melodia melodia*
(Wilson)

Resident, abundant in summer, common in winter.

Eggs in the Mengel collection range from May 6 (1887) to July 8 (1887). Of 33 nests, seven contained Cowbird's eggs.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR, *Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*
(Linnaeus)

A rare winter visitant, usually seen with large flocks of Horned Larks.

All records follow:

1930, April	6,	near Fleetwood.	(E.L.P.)
1933, Feb.	12,	Maidencreek.	(B.N., E.L.P.)
1934, March	13,	(2) near Fleetwood.	(B.N., E.L.P.)
1935, Jan.	6,	(2) near Fleetwood.	(B.N., E.L.P.)
1935, March	31,	(3) near Fleetwood.	(B.N., E.L.P.)
1937, March	7,	(3) Albany Twp.	(E.L.P.)
1939, Feb.	12,	near Fleetwood.	(E.L.P.)
1942, Dec.	20,	near Morgantown.	(A.S.)

EASTERN SNOW BUNTING, *Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*
Linnaeus)

A rare winter visitant, formerly more common.

There are eight specimens in the Reading Museum collection, taken between 1887 and 1890, and ranging from Nov. 13 (1890) to Feb. 8 (1887). John F. Hofmann listed it as occurring locally in 1890.

Walter Leibelsperger of Fleetwood told me that he saw a flock at Moselem Springs many years ago. More recently Arthur Sigman saw eight in the Conestoga Valley, near Morgantown, throughout the month of February, 1935, and Maurice Brown reports four observations from Hawk Mountain, Nov. 18, 1936, Nov. 2, 1937, and Nov. 4 (11); 5 (9); 7 (2); all in 1942.

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READING PUBLIC MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Bulletin No. 12

The
Bird Life of Berks County
Pennsylvania

By EARL L. POOLE

1930

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READING PUBLIC MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Bulletin No. 12

The
Bird Life of Berks County
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By EARL L. POOLE

Printed by the Department of Practical Arts, School District of Reading, Pa.

1930

To

DR. LEVI W. MENGEL

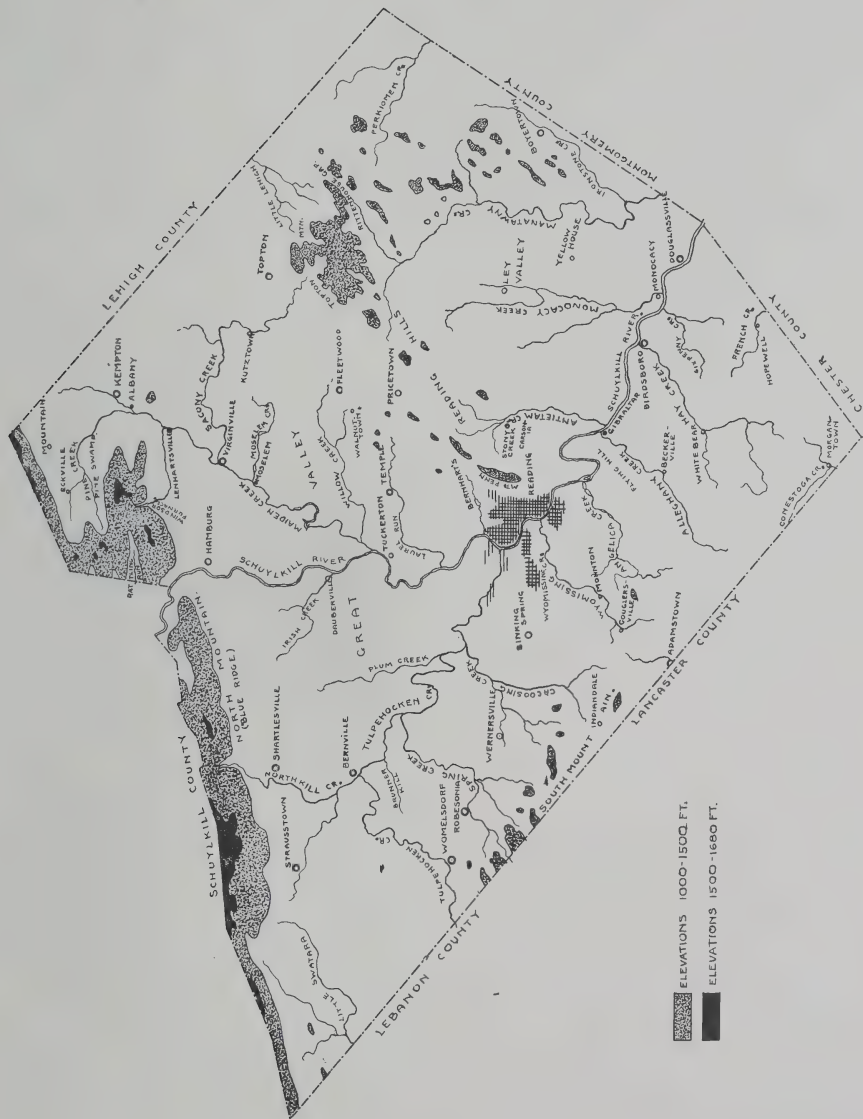
*who laid the foundation of this work,
this book is affectionately dedicated.*



THE BARN OWL

A beneficial resident species that is persecuted through ignorance and thoughtlessness.

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SKETCH MAP OF BERKS COUNTY — Approximate scale 8 miles—1 inch

INTRODUCTION

BERKS COUNTY in southeastern Pennsylvania is mainly in the watershed of the Schuylkill River, at its nearest point some forty-five miles above tide-water. It is roughly lozenge-shaped, with the long axis extending east and west, and embraces about 920 square miles. The main topographical features all run from northeast to southwest, and are, in their turn from the northwestern boundary: First, the so-called "Blue Ridge," "North Mountain," or more properly, the Kitatinny Range, the crest of which forms the entire northwestern boundary line, and attains at points an elevation of almost 1700 feet. It is almost entirely forested.

Then follows the broad, rolling "Great Valley," which covers almost half the entire area of the country and averages about 400 feet in elevation. This is the rich agricultural section, and is closely cultivated in its entirety.

Finally, in the southeastern half are the scattered South Mountains or Reading Hills, which are wooded, but interspersed here and there with rolling valleys equally as intensively cultivated as the Great Valley.

The highest points of the South Mountain system do not exceed 1280 feet in altitude; most of them are much lower. The largest valley of those in the southern hill region is that drained by the Manatawny Creek and known as the Oley Valley.

Situated both in the Carolinian and Alleghanian life zones, Berks presents many interesting examples of the overlapping ranges of birds typical of these faunas.

Of the Carolinian species, the Turkey Vulture, Louisiana Water Thrush, and Worm-eating Warbler, breed over the entire county wherever suitable conditions are found, while the Cardinal, Barn Owl, Fish Crow and Rough-winged Swallow are absent only from the Blue Mountain region.

The Blue-winged Warbler breeds commonly up to the Lehigh County line in the South Mountain ridges, but I have not found it across the Great Valley. Of the other Carolinian species inhabiting the county, the Carolina Wren is seldom seen north of Reading, but during its periods of greatest abundance is quite common along the Schuylkill Valley to the southeast. The Kentucky Warbler is restricted to the

more humid wooded valleys of the lower Schuylkill tributaries, and the Acadian Flycatcher is occasionally found in the same region.

The Tufted Titmouse is apparently retreating, and is only occasionally met with along the lower Schuylkill Valley, whereas it was formerly found along practically all of the larger wooded streams.

Of the Alleghanian species the Least Flycatcher, Chestnut-sided Warbler and Rose-breasted Grosbeak breed over the entire county, the latter species locally, however, and the Bobolink and Wilson's Thrush have each been noticed once in June as far south as Monocacy and Birdsboro.

The Alder Flycatcher and Golden-winged Warbler must be regarded at most as rare breeders, each having been noted in the extreme northern corner of the County, while the Black-throated Green Warbler is common enough in the few remaining stands of White Pine that exist in the same region.

An altogether unexpected Canadian element is evidenced by the occurrence in Summer along the Blue Mountains, of the Canadian, Magnolia, and Nashville Warblers, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, and the White-throated Sparrow. A surprising zoogeographical anomaly is the occurrence together as breeders of the Canadian and Hooded Warblers, the latter usually considered a Carolinian species, in certain ravines in the Blue Mountain region. Both species are equally common along Rattling Run on the north slope of the Ridge.

The present list is chiefly the result of fourteen years of active field work and association with those interested in bird-life in the vicinity of Reading and the surrounding county of Berks, during which time the writer spent some part of over 1500 days in the field. The length of trips varied from a couple of hours in the early morning to entire days.

In contrast to the long line of ornithologists and serious students who have made the adjoining Counties of Chester, Delaware, Philadelphia, Montgomery, Lancaster and others in southeastern Pennsylvania, doubtless among the most historical regions, ornithologically, in the country, Berks has received but little notice. This may seem the more remarkable since it was the birthplace of several eminent men of science, many of whom, however, early sought other fields. Walter J. Hoffman, Joseph Leidy and Spencer F. Baird were among the most prominent of these.

Wm. S. Baird, a brother to the father of the Smithsonian Institution and a former Mayor of Reading, is said to have

collected some local birds many years ago. These were for some time in the possession of the Reading Society of Natural Sciences, which disbanded in 1883, when many of them came to the High School for Boys, where Mr. David Brunner, of Indian relic fame, assiduously removed all the labels. No doubt some of his specimens are now in the Reading Public Museum.

John F. Hofmann, an active student and collector of the old school compiled a local list about 1890 and left a few very creditably mounted specimens of local birds, some of which are still in the Reading Museum, but unfortunately, without data. It is understood that all species listed by Hofmann were actually collected by him.

D. Frank Keller and B. H. Graves contributed some local data to Dr. Warren at the time of the publication of his "Birds of Pennsylvania."

Christopher H. Shearer, the artist, collected a few of the water-birds about the years 1885-95 in the neighborhood of his Tuckerton studio.

The only existing collection of any size, however, is that formed by Dr. Levi W. Mengel between the years 1884-1900.

More recently, Mr. W. H. Liebelsperger of Fleetwood has taken an active interest in oology and has collected sets of some of our least-known breeding species. Dr. Stanley Brunner of Krumsville has a fair series of local birds collected over a long period of years.

The present group of students residing in Reading have amassed a great deal of data on the local migrations during the past few years, and the result of their work is doubtless of more interest today, since many changes have been, and still are taking place in the character of the surrounding country, resulting in corresponding changes in the local avifauna. Certainly, some of the data from the older collections does not agree with recent experience.

In the past twenty-five years much of the remaining marshland has been drained and converted into pasture land; practically all of the fine large tracts of mature timber in the southern part of the country have been cut over, and the Schuylkill river has been converted by deposits of culm from the coal fields and waste oil from the factories along its banks to an unsightly condition of barrenness.

The advent of the automobile and the improvement of roads have opened up many of the secluded spots that were havens of refuge for the shy and wilder birds, and have

resulted in bungalow settlements springing up over a wide territory about Reading, while the thoughtless man with a gun has been enabled to ply his work of destruction more effectively.

Then the process of cleaning up the farms by removing the underbrush from the margins of grain fields, the cutting out of dead timber, and the close cultivation of the soil are continuing the process which the late Herman Strecher lamented so aptly if cynically in "It has cut me to the soul many a time to see just such places burnt over, strewn with lime and plowed up to raise wheat to make bread, to keep the worthless souls in the worthless bodies of worthless beings which live and die without leaving the slightest vestige of a footprint on the sands of time."

In the immediate neighborhood of Reading the changes of the past fifteen years have brought about marked changes in the local distribution of birds, the past five years having far overshadowed any previous like period in this respect.

The "Hessian camp", long one of the most productive spots within the city limits has recently been cut into building lots. The extensive and ever productive woodland on the lower northwestern slope of Mt. Penn has suffered a like fate, and awkward "suburbs" are creeping into the interesting little valleys in every direction.

The introduction and increase of the European Starling is largely responsible for the marked decrease of several of our native species, notably the Bluebird and Meadowlark.

Even now, the portable saw-mill is eating into the beautiful hemlock and pine-clad slopes of the Northern Blue Mountain region, and the day may be not far distant when they will be entirely replaced by the scrubby second-growth that predominates elsewhere.

The writer wishes to express his obligation to Miss Anna P. Deeter, Mr. W. H. Liebelsperger, Dr. Levi W. Mengel, Mr. Harold Morris and Mr. Byron Nunemacher, who have generously allowed me the full use of their notes and data, also to the following for many interesting records which are included:

Mr. Stanley Bright

Miss Mary Deeter

Mr. Howard Dietrich

Mr. Charles Fenstermacher

Mr. A. Lincoln Ruth

Mrs. John A. Nichols

Mr. Oswell T. Reinhart

Mr. Conrad K. Roland

Miss Florence Hergesheimer
Mr. Richard Lawrence
Mr. Adam Leader

Mr. and Mrs. G. Henry
Mengel
Mr. Alan G. Sternbergh
Mr. Samuel Wishnieski

To Dr. Witmer Stone I am especially indebted for much
valuable advice and assistance.



BIRDS TAKEN AND OBSERVED IN THE COUNTY WITHIN THE PAST THREE DECADES. (1900-1930)

HOLBOELL'S GREBE (*Colymbus griseigena holboelli*)

A rare transient on the larger ponds and dams. I know of but three recent records: Bernhart's reservoir, March 21 (1923) (R. Henderson, Nunemacher and Poole), Maiden-creek, Feb. 26-27 (1930), and April 20, 1930 (Nunemacher and Poole). It was listed as occurring locally by J. F. Hoffman, 1890.

HORNED GREBE (*Colymbus auritus*)

A transient on ponds and larger streams; sometimes common in spring; rather rare in fall. The earliest of twenty-one spring records covering the last fourteen years is April 4 (1922); the latest, May 13 (1923). Of six fall observations in the same space of time the earliest is November 2 (1918), and the latest November 29 (1924). (Nunemacher.) This species occurs either singly, in small groups, or as on April 21, 1929, a flock of 250.

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*)

A fairly common transient on ponds and larger streams; seen less frequently in spring than in late summer and fall, when they sometimes remain on the same body of water for several weeks, often in small family groups of from two to five.

Thirty-five spring records range from March 13 (1921) to May 12 (1929).

Fifty-five fall records are between August 13 (1922) and November 18 (1916).

One was observed at Moselem Springs on July 7 and 13 (1929). (Nunemacher and Poole.)

LOON (*Gavia immer*)

An uncommon transient on the larger ponds, much more frequently observed in spring than fall.

Fourteen spring observations are between April 9 (1921) and May 11 (1917), and I have seen it twice in fall, Nov. 3 and Nov. 23 (1929). Several local specimens have been taken.

RED-THROATED LOON (*Gavia stellata*)

A very rare transient. On November 6, 1926, one alighted in a cornfield near Leesport. It was captured by some small boys and confined in a poultry pen, dying two days later. This specimen is now in the Reading Museum.

HERRING GULL (*Larus argentatus*)

An uncommon transient in late winter and spring along the Schuylkill, or visiting the larger ponds during severe storms; otherwise casual.

Twelve records between Jan. 11 (1930) and May 3 (1929). On June 8, 1922, following a heavy storm, one came to Bernhart's Reservoir and remained for four days.

RING-BILLED GULL (*Larus delawarensis*)

A rare transient, occurring after severe storms on or near the larger bodies of water. The recent records follow:

April 4, 1929, Angelica Ice Dam (Poole).

March 30, 1924, Angelica Ice Dam (H. Morris).

May 7, 1929, (2) Maidencreek Dam (Poole).

October 1-3, 1929, Maidencreek Dam (Nunemacher and Poole).

A specimen in the Reading Museum was taken on the Sacony Creek near Kutztown in early April, 1904 (W. H. Leibelsberger).

John F. Hofmann listed it as occurring locally in 1890.

BONAPARTE'S GULL (*Larus philadelphia*)

An uncommon transient, occurring in the same places and under the same conditions as the two preceding species, but more frequent. Recent records follow:

April 15, 1922. Six at Dauberville (Poole).

April 15, 1922. One at Angelica Dam (H. Morris).

May 13, 1924. Two on Angelica Dam (B. Nunemacher).

April 19, 1925. Angelica Dam (Poole).

April 12-13-14, 1929. Maidencreek Dam (twenty were seen on the 13th) (Poole).

May 7, 1929. Maidencreek Dam (Poole).

Oct. 3, 1929. Maidencreek Dam (Poole).

Nov. 30, 1929. Maidencreek Dam (Poole).

Two specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken on the Schuylkill River above Reading; one by C. H. Shearer, Aug. 30, 1891, another by J. F. Hofmann, Sept. 22, 1886.

COUES' CASPIAN TERN (*Sterna caspia imperator*)

Casual. One was carefully identified and watched for one hour at the Maidencreek Dam on May 3, 1929, following a storm. (Poole).

COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*)

A rare transient, only three recent records, all in the fall.

Sept. 26, 1926, Wernersville (A. P. and M. E. Deeter, E. Poole).

October 4, 1927. Wyomissing (specimen collected) (Poole).

Oct. 3, 1929. Maidencreek. (Nunemacher and Poole).

Listed by Hofmann, 1890, and reported from county by

D. F. Keller (Warren, B. of P.)

BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*)

An uncommon transient, usually occurring after storms. Recent observations follow:

Angelica Dam, Sept. 6, 1919 (S. D. Green and Poole).

Angelica Dam, July 31, 1920 (F. Hergesheimer).

Angelica Dam, Aug. 8-9, 1920 (A. P. and M. E. Deeter, Poole).

Angelica Dam, Sept. 25, 1921 (G. H. Mengel).

Moselem, Aug. 26, 1928 (2), (Poole).

Maidencreek, May 3 and 7, 1929 (Nunemacher and Poole).

Maidencreek, Aug. 15, 1929 (Poole).

Maidencreek, Sept. 14, 1929 (Poole).

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken near Tuckerton, Aug. 12, 1892.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*)

Casual. One visited the Maidencreek Dam on April 21, 1929, following a storm. It was observed at rest and in flight under satisfactory conditions (Poole).

AMERICAN MERGANSER (*Mergus americanus*)

Uncommon winter visitant, varying somewhat in abundance, but usually present in secluded spots on the larger streams from late December until late in April.

Observations range from October 24 (1926) to May 11 (1916), although it seldom arrives before Christmas and departs, usually, by May 3.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (*Mergus serrator*)

Uncommon transient. More observations in 1929 than in the past 14 years together.

Ten spring records from April 7 (1926) to May 12 (1929). Forty-five were seen on April 21, 1929.

One fall record, nine at Maidencreek, Nov. 3, 1929.

There is a specimen in the Mengel collection taken Dec. 1, 1895.

HOODED MERGANSER (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)

An irregular transient; very rare previous to 1922, it has since become much more frequent in its occurrence during the spring migration.

The earliest spring date of twenty-four observations is March 3 (1924) (S. Bright); the latest, April 26 (1922).

An immature individual remained along the Moselem from Aug. 29 to Sept. 14, 1924, and a female was seen in the same locality on June 13, 1926.

MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*)

A fairly common transient, occurring in secluded spots along the larger streams. Usually it associates and feeds with the flocks of Black Ducks, from one to four Mallards with a flock of the Blacks, although an occasional flock of as many as thirty Mallards is seen.

My extreme spring dates (sixteen observations) are Feb. 10 (1929) to April 23 (1929).

Eighteen fall observations are between Aug. 10 (1923) and Nov. 17 (1929).

RED-LEGGED BLACK DUCK (*Anas rubripes rubripes*)

Examples of this race have been specifically seen on March 29, 1915, and on Sept. 20, 1928, when a drake joined the flock in the Museum park and remained for several days. It undoubtedly occurs more frequently than these data would seem to indicate but has probably been overlooked.

BLACK DUCK (*Anas rubripes tristis*)

A common transient and occasional resident. This is easily the commonest of our ducks, occurring singly or in flocks of as many as 70, often dropping into surprisingly small pools. It has been noted during every month in the year. W. H. Liebelsperger has seen young in a marsh along the Moselem in recent years.

GADWALL (*Chaulelasmus streperus*)

A rare transient, unknown locally previous to 1929. On April 23 of this year a pair were carefully identified on the Maiden-creek. On October 27 a flock of ten visited the same locality, two remaining until Nov. 3 (Nunemacher and Poole), and one was seen in the same place on Nov. 28. (These observations were made under favorable circumstances and I had previously become well acquainted with this bird in its breeding grounds in northern Utah; Poole.)

BALDPATE (*Mareca americana*)

Fairly common transient, apparently increasing. Seventeen spring records from Feb. 26 (1930), to May 5 (1929). Eleven fall records between Sept. 16 (1922, shot) and Nov. 23 (1929).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (*Nettion carolinense*)

Formerly a rare transient, apparently increasing (1929). Eight spring records between Feb. 23 (1930, Poole) and April 26 (1929). Ten fall records from Sept. 15 (1929) to Nov. 28 (1929). It was listed by John F. Hofmann as occurring locally in 1890. I have one winter record, Jan. 17, 1930.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Querquedula discors*)

Fairly common transient on the larger streams and ponds. Spring, seventeen records, March 28 (1925) to May 13 (1916, Roland). Fall, twenty-one records, Aug. 11 (1929) to Oct. 29 (1922, Morris and Nunemacher).

SHOVELLER (*Spatula clypeata*)

Formerly a rare transient, apparently increasing in 1929. Dec. 11, 1927, during a sleet storm, a drake Shoveller joined the tame ducks at the Reading Museum and remained with them until July, 1929, becoming very tame and apparently feeling perfectly contented among his adopted friends.

April 22, 1929, one shot out of a flock of four at Seasholtz's Dam, near New Berlinville (C. Fenstermacher).

April 23-26, 1929, two males on the Maidencreek Dam.

Oct. 3, 1929, a flock of four came to the Maidencreek Dam during a severe Northeaster.

March 9, 1930, one at the same place (A. and M. Deeter, B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

PINTAIL (*Dafila acuta tzitzihua*)

Formerly an uncommon transient; apparently increasing. Spring, eight records, Feb. 23 (1930), (five), to April 21 (1929). Fall, ten records, Aug. 9 1929) to Nov. 23 (1929). Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

There are also two winter records, Dec. 22, 1929, and January 17, 1930 (Poole).

WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*)

An uncommon transient in late summer and early fall, in secluded spots on the larger streams. Formerly a rare breeder. Rare in spring.

Twenty-five records between July 11 (1925) and Sept.

14 (1922, Bright and Poole). Feb. 25, 1930 (Poole).

There is a set of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection taken at the mouth of the Sacony Creek in 1887 by S. S. Gruber.

REDHEAD (*Marila americana*)

An uncommon transient. All the recent records follow:

March 12-16, 1918, one at Angelica Dam (Poole).

March 24, 1929, one at Moselem Dam (Poole).

Oct. 3, 1929, one at Maidencreek Dam (Nunemacher and Poole).

Nov. 3, 1929, four at Maidencreek Dam (Nunemacher and Poole).

Nov. 30, 1929, one at Maidencreek Dam (Poole).

CANVASBACK (*Marila valisineria*)

An uncommon transient and rare winter visitant.

March 22, 1923, one at Angelica Ice Dam (Deeter, Mengel, Morris, Nunemacher, Poole, etc.)

April 2, 1923, one at Blue Marsh (Morris and Poole).

As this bird was accompanied by a female ringneck as the previous record, we assumed them to have been the same pair.

Jan. 18-Feb. 21, 1929, one joined the ducks at the Museum Lake and remained until the lake froze. It was seen by hundreds of visitors.

Nov. 3, 1929, four at Maidencreek Dam during a storm (Nunemacher and Poole). Recorded by J. F. Hofmann, 1890.

SCAUP DUCK (*Marila marila*)

An uncommon transient. The difficulty of satisfactorily distinguishing this and the following may have caused some errors in identification. Notwithstanding the fact that it has several times been possible to identify this species under ideal conditions at short range, some of the sight records had better be considered as probable.

Spring (twelve records), March 20 (1920) to May 1 (1920-21). Fall, Nov. 14 (1915).

A specimen taken near Reading, Nov. 30, 1890, is in the collection of L. W. Mengel.

LESSER SCAUP (*Marila affinis*)

A fairly common transient in spring; rather rare in fall; known to summer in one instance.

Spring (thirty-one records), Feb. 26 (1922) to May 12 (1920-1929). Fall (four records), Oct. 7 (1890, specimen, Mengel collection), Nov. 23 (1929).

One spent the summer on the Schuylkill near Tucker-ton, remaining from June 16 to Oct. 2, 1923 (S. Bright).

RING-NECKED DUCK (*Marila collaris*)

Uncommon transient; nine spring records between March 10 (1928) and April 29 (1928, Nunemacher and Poole). Only one fall observation, Nov. 15, 1929 (two, Poole).

AMERICAN GOLDENEYE (*Glaucionette clangula americana*)

An uncommon transient, occurring both on the larger streams and ponds.

Spring, fifteen records between Feb. 25 (1930) and May 7 (1922). Fall, five records between Nov. 14 (1915) and Dec. 10, 1929 (Poole).

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken Oct. 14, 1888.

BUFFLEHEAD (*Charitonetta albeola*)

An uncommon transient and rare winter visitant, usually occurring on the larger ponds only after severe storms and seldom remaining more than a few hours.

Nine spring records between March 25 (1916) and May 1 (1920). Three fall records between Nov. 17 (1929 and Nov. 28 (1929).

One was seen along the Schuylkill Feb. 14, 1920.

It was listed by Hofmann in 1890.

OLD SQUAW (*Clangula hyemalis*)

An uncommon transient and winter visitant, sometimes visiting remarkably small ponds at the latter season.

I have nineteen records between Nov. 3 (1929) and May 1 (1924, Morris, Nunemacher and Poole).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (*Oidemia deglandi*)

A rare transient in spring and fall, alighting during severe storms.

Oct. 12, 1927, two visited Bernhart's Reservoir, where they were observed by B. Nunemacher and E. Rollman. One was later shot by a gunner.

Nov. 3, 1929, four at Maiden creek Dam (Nunemacher and Poole).

April 22, 1930, 5 at the same place (Poole).

SURF SCOTER (*Oidemia perspicillata*)

A rare transient. The only recent record is a pair observed at close range and under excellent conditions at the Maiden creek Dam, April 22, (1930) (Poole).

RUDDY DUCK (*Erismatura jamaicensis rubida*)

An uncommon transient; apparently increasing (1929).

Spring, April 4 (1922) to May 5 (1929). Fall, Oct. 3 (1929) to Nov. 17 (1929).

CANADA GOOSE (*Branta canadensis canadensis*)

A fairly common transient, occasionally alighting on the larger bodies of water or on meadows to feed, but usually noticed as the clamoring ranks drift majestically overhead.

Spring, sixteen records, Feb. 24 (1922) to April 29 (1920). Fall, four records, Nov. 9 (1929, Miner) to Dec. 4 (1920).

WHISTLING SWAN (*Cygnus columbianus*)

A rare transient. The only records known to me are March 26, 1930, two on the Maiden creek Dam during a storm accompanied by snow and high northwest winds (Poole). On the 30th of March an immature bird was seen in the same place (A. and M. Deeter, F. Hergesheimer, Nunemacher and Poole).

Introduced Species

MUTE SWAN (*Cygnus olor*)

On May 12, 1929, one appeared on the Maiden creek Dam, and later the same day was reported from Angelica Dam, where it remained for over a week.

WOOD IBIS (*Mycteria americana*)

A rare straggler from the South.

On Nov. 11, 1921, Dr. Stanley Brunner of Krumsville received a specimen that had been found dead near Wessnersville. I examined this bird in the flesh.

AMERICAN BITTERN (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)

Fairly common transient; formerly bred.

Spring, twelve observations between April 13 (1922) and May 23 (1926, A. Deeter and F. Hergesheimer). Fall, eight records between Aug. 11 (1929) and Nov. 4 (1920). The latter specimen, taken at Beckersville, contained a Meadow Mouse (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*).

A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken near Bernville, May 24, 1890. A specimen dated June 5, 1887, is in the same collection.

LEAST BITTERN (*Ixobrychus exilis*)

A rare transient; formerly bred, and may still do so, but easily overlooked. The only recent observations follow:

May 20, 1922, Moselem (Bright and Poole).

Oct. 3, 1929, one flushed from a marsh near the Maiden-creek Dam (Nunemacher and Poole).

Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken as follows:

Exeter, May 6, 1888.

Blue Marsh, June 1, 1887.

Three sets of eggs in the same collection bear the following data:

(4) Blue Marsh, May 24, 1890.

(4) Rockland, May 23, 1899.

(5) Willow Creek, June 8, 1890.

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias herodias*)

A fairly common transient, recorded during every month but February. It is most abundant from the middle of July until the middle of October.

AMERICAN EGRET (*Casmerodius egretta*)

Formerly very rare, now apparently a regular summer visitant from the South. First noted in 1920, it returned in 1923, again in 1925, and has been seen every year since, sometimes in groups of from four to seven individuals, often with the following species.

The earliest arrival date is June 23 (1929), and the latest date of departure, Oct. 3 (1929).

LITTLE BLUE HERON (*Florida coerulea*)

Formerly an uncommon summer visitant from the South. Of late it has become much more frequent in occurrence, sometimes appearing in flocks of fifty or more on secluded ponds, always in white plumage.

There is one local spring record, a bird in mottled plumage at Maiden-creek, May 12, 1929 (A. Deeter, F. Hergesheimer, Nunemacher and Poole). Summer dates are between July 4 (1929) and Sept. 19 (1926). It has been recorded five years out of the last seven.

LITTLE GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens virescens*)

A common summer resident.

Spring arrival dates range from Mar. 25 (1916) to May 8 (1927). (Average, April 22.) My latest fall record is Oct. 17 (1920), although it is seldom seen after Oct. 3.

Of twelve sets of eggs in the Mengel collection the earliest was taken April 30 (1887), the latest June 17 (1885).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*)

Common summer resident, nesting locally.

Spring arrival dates from March 30 (1923) to May 8 (1920). (Average, twelve years, April 19.) My latest fall date is Nov. 1 (1925).

There are eleven local sets of eggs in local collections taken between April 28 and June 1, and rookeries of some size formerly existed near Lenhartsville and at Moselem, the latter until 1904. It is doubtful if any such colonies now exist in Berks County. The nearest large breeding colony is probably that on Muddy Creek, at Fry's Mill, Lancaster County. This colony consisted of some 250 nests in 1917.

VIRGINIA RAIL (*Rallus limicola*)

Summer resident, locally distributed.

Eleven observations range between April 26 (1925) and Sept. 4 (1927).

L. W. Mengel found it nesting in Exeter Township May 24 (1903), as did W. H. Liebelsperger at Moselem. Immature birds were seen on July 11, 15 and 17, at Carsonia (Morris, Nunemacher and Poole). One was seen carrying nesting material at Moselem Springs July 7, 1929.

SORA (*Porzana carolina*)

A rare and local summer resident, more common during migrations, especially in fall.

My earliest arrival date is May 5 (1923 and 1929) and latest fall observation Oct. 3 (1929), although a local skin in the Mengel collection was taken Oct. 17 (1886).

A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken at Virginville, May 30, 1896, and D. Frank Keller listed it as a breeder (Warren "B. of Pa.")

Stanley Bright and the writer watched a Sora carrying nesting material near Moselem, May 20, 1922.

FLORIDA GALLINULE (*Gallinula chloropus cachinnans*)

A rare transient, detected once in summer. The only local records, recent or otherwise, with which I am acquainted are:

Moselem, July 14, 1928 (Nunemacher and Rollman).
Maidencreek, Sept. 28, 29 and Oct. 1, 1929. Probably the same one each time (Nunemacher and Poole).

AMERICAN COOT (*Fulica americana*)

A fairly common transient on the larger ponds.

Fourteen spring observations range between March 18 (1923, Henderson and Poole) and May 18 (1924, Nunemacher and Poole).

Fourteen fall records between Sept. 15 (1929) and Nov. 19 (1929).

There are four local specimens in the Mengel collection.

NORTHERN PHALAROPE (*Lobipes lobatus*)

A rare transient. There are three recent records:

Moselem, Aug. 26, 1928 (M. E. and A. P. Deeter, F. Hergesheimer and E. Poole).

Maidencreek, Sept. 14, 1929 (Poole).

Maidencreek, Oct. 3, 1929 (two) (Poole).

A specimen in the Reading Museum was taken at Tucker-ton, April 20, 1890, by C. H. Shearer.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK (*Philohela minor*)

An uncommon transient and rather rare and local summer resident. My earliest spring date is March 7 (1929) and latest fall, Nov. 5 (1921).

A set of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken near Douglassville, April 30, 1895, and W. H. Liebelsperger has seen downy young near Fleetwood.

WILSON'S SNIPE (*Gallinago delicata*)

A fairly common transient, and local winter resident about springheads during mild winters.

It has been seen during every month, between Aug. 9 (1929) and May 20 (1916).

DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus griseus*)

A very rare transient.

One visited the flooded meadows along the Ontelaunee Dam with some yellowlegs during a severe storm, Sept. 8 (1929) and was carefully identified (B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Pisobia melanotos*)

Transient, rare in spring, irregular but sometimes locally common in fall. More were seen during the late summer and fall of 1929 than during all other years.

My only spring record is April 7 (1918) along the Angelica Creek. Fall dates, mostly in 1929, are between July 23 and Nov. 10. The maximum abundance during this year was reached on Aug. 15, when eighty were seen within a few acres of marshy meadow.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*Pisobia fuscicollis*)

A rare transient in fall.

Although not recorded for years, a flock of 30, and several others in the flocks of Red-backed and Semipalmated Sandpipers were observed at Maidencreek on Oct. 3 (1929) following a three day tropical storm (Nunemacher and Poole).

One was seen at the same place on Oct. 13 (1929) (Nunemacher and Poole).

Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken Aug. 11 (1892) and Oct. 17 (1894).

"One was taken near Reading by D. Frank Keller," Warren "B. of Pa.," 1890.

LEAST SANDPIPER (*Pisobia minutilla*)

An uncommon transient, more frequent in fall. Common in 1929.

Seven spring records between May 5 (1929) and May 26 (1929).

Twenty-three fall records between July 23 (1929) and Oct. 3 (1929). There are five specimens in the Mengel collection, taken April 30 (1887), May 1 (1890) Aug. 27 (1889) and Sept. 6 (1890).

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER (*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*)

A rare transient in fall.

Oct. 1, 1929, three along the Maidencreek with Semipalmated Sandpipers, (Poole).

Oct. 13, 1929, one in the same locality (Nunemacher and Poole).

Nov. 3, 1929, one in the same locality (Nunemacher and Poole).

There are two local specimens in the Reading Museum taken by L. W. Mengel, April 25 (1900) and Aug. 3 (1887).

SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPER (*Ereunetes pusillus*)

An uncommon transient; mostly fall records. Observed five years out of thirteen; locally common in 1929.

Five spring dates, May 12 (1929) to June 6 (1929).

Twenty-four fall records, July 14 (1929) to Oct. 13 (1929). Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

SANDERLING (*Crocethia alba*)

A rare transient, visiting mud flats with the other sandpipers. The only recent records are:

Sept. 11, 1921, one at Angelica Dam (S. Bright and E. Poole).

Sept. 4, 1922, one near Angelica Dam (H. Morris).

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken at Greenawald, April 22, 1887. Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

GREATER YELLOW-LEGS (*Totanus melanoleucus*)

A fairly common transient on mud flats and shallow ponds.

Twenty-nine spring records between April 5 (1923) and June 2 (1929).

Thirteen fall records between Sept. 13 (1925) and Nov. 3 (1929).

This species is much commoner in spring than the following, but apparently never occurs in such large flocks in the fall.

YELLOW-LEGS (*Totanus flavipes*)

Transient, usually rare in spring, common in fall, occurring in the same places as the preceding.

Eight spring dates are between April 23 (1929) and May 26 (1929).

Thirty-nine fall dates between July 31 (1929) and Nov. 1 (1925).

Contrary to the usual impression, the lesser Yellowlegs was positively common about the Maiden creek area in April and May (1929), as many as 70 being seen at one time (May 5).

Direct comparison with the other species and with the Solitary Sandpiper was often possible.

During the late summer as many as 80 were present at the same time, Aug. 15 (1929).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER (*Tringa solitaria solitaria*)

A common transient.

Spring arrival (March 25, 1928) April 24 (1921) to May 8 (1917); average, 13 years, April 27.

Spring departure May 3 (1928) to May 26 (1917); average, 13 years, May 15.

Fall arrival, July 12 (1922-25) to Aug. 26 (1928); average, 11 years, July 27.

Fall departure, Sept. 10 (1922) to Oct. 19 (1917); average, 10 years, Sept. 26.

This is among the first of the fall transients to return from the north.

UPLAND PLOVER (*Bartramia longicauda*)

An uncommon summer resident in the Great Valley. Elsewhere a regular transient, its rolling call being frequently heard at night during the last weeks of July and early August over Reading.

Arrival April 6 (1929) to May 5 (1923); average, 8 years, April 20.

Departure, Aug. 13 (1922) to Sept. 8 (1929); average, 8 years, Aug. 19.

This species is compelled to shift its nesting location from year to year, to find its preferred habitat,—a grass field at least a year old.

Data on three sets of eggs taken years ago and now in the Mengel collection; May 4 (1890 and 1893) and July 1 (1886).

W. H. Liebelsperger found it nesting June 11 (1914) at Windsor Castle, and I found young near Walnuttown, June 6 (1920) and at Maidencreek, several times in 1929.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularia*)

A common summer resident about ponds and all fair-sized streams.

Arrival, April 6 (1924) to May 1 (1927) average, 12 years, April 20.

Departure, Aug. 29 (1922) to Oct. 13 (1929); average, 12 years, Sept. 19.

G. H. Mengel reported a straggler at Wyomissing, Nov. 21 (1925).

A pair bred in the Museum Park in 1929, three young coming off the nest June 6. There are numerous nesting records from all over the county.

AMERICAN BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Squatarola squatarola cynosurae*)

A rare transient, unrecorded until 1929, when the following occurrences were recorded—all in Maidencreek Township.

May 26, (2); one remained until May 30 (Poole).

Aug. 18, one (Poole).

Sept. 8, two (Nunemacher and Poole).

Oct. 3, six during a severe northeast storm (Poole).

D. F. Keller reported it from Berks County.

(Warren, "B. of Pa.," 1890).

GOLDEN PLOVER (*Pluvialis dominica dominica*)

A rare transient in fall. Like the former, this species was unreported for many years before 1929, when it was noted on three occasions, all within a hundred yards of the same spot.

Oct. 1, a very tame individual.

Oct. 12, two.

Oct. 23, three. (E. L. Poole).

It was listed as occurring here by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

KILLDEER (*Oxyechus vociferus*)

A common summer resident, wintering at least six years out of fourteen.

When not known to winter it has arrived from Feb. 22 (1925) to March 20 (1919), and departs, usually, from Oct. 14 (1923) to Dec. 3 (1921).

Nesting dates from April 24 (1890) to June 1 (1887). Twenty sets in the Reading Museum.

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)

An uncommon transient, more often recorded in fall. The only spring occurrence is a flock of 12 observed at Maiden-creek, May 26 (1926). Two remained until May 30, and one until June 2.

There are six fall records between Aug. 9 (1920) and Oct. 3 (1929).

Four specimens in the Mengel collection were taken Sept. 9 (1890), Sept. 16 (1889), Sept. 26 (1892) and Oct. 4 (1888).

BOBWHITE (*Colinus virginianus virginianus*)

Resident, varying in abundance. Abundant at the present time (1929).

Eight sets of eggs have been taken locally from May 17 (1887) to June 14 (1890) (L. W. Mengel).

Introduced Species

EUROPEAN PARTRIDGE (*Perdix perdix perdix*)

Resident. This species has been introduced on several occasions; several years ago near Bally and Bechtelsville, and in December (1925), at several other points. The former group, at least, seems to be holding its own.

One was found dead near Pricetown in March (1925) and I flushed a covey along the Brunner Kill on Jan. 10 (1926).

RUFFED GROUSE (*Bonasa umbellus umbellus*)

A common resident along the Blue Ridge, and found sparingly throughout the wooded regions elsewhere. It has occurred recently on Mt. Penn within a hundred yards of the city of Reading, on Deer Path Hill, Guldin Hill, Flying Hill, etc.

During the present year (1929) it is apparently undergoing one of its periods of decline in the Blue Mountain region.

Data on three local sets of eggs in the Mengel collection: May 17, 1887, Moselem.

May 24, 1890, Blue Marsh.

May 28, 1887, Monocacy.

WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*)

Local resident in the Blue Mountains, where a few flocks are still to be found. From tail feathers that I have picked up in their haunts, and the specimen mentioned below I believe that some, at least, of the local stock is still quite pure and unmixed with the domesticated variety.

Six or seven were shot during the season of 1923, and the same number in 1924. I observed one at Eckville, May 23 (1926), which acted as though it had young. Mr. Adam Hiester, of Strausstown, has a fine gobbler which was found dead at the base of the mountain near that place in March, 1921. The cause of its death was surmised to have been a quantity of mildewed corn that it had eaten.

Listed by Hofmann in 1890, and reported as breeding sparingly in the Blue Mountains by F. Frank Keller, "Birds of Pennsylvania," 1890.

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (*Phasianus torquatus x colchicus*)

This handsome hybrid species has been introduced in a number of localities within the county.

Resident wherever found. A thriving colony has for several years inhabited the old Farr Nursery near Wyomissing, where it is rigidly protected.

MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaida macroura carolinensis*)

Common summer resident, occasional in winter.

Jan. 12 1924. Two along Plum Creek. (S. Bright and Poole).

Jan. 19, 1924. A flock of twelve at Seyfert's. (H. Morris).

Dec. 7, 1924. A flock of nine at Flying Hill. (M. Sternbergh, A. Sternbergh and E. L. Poole).

Jan. 10, 1926, one near Bern Church.

Dec. 25, 1927, Moselem.

Jan. 15, 1928, Blue Marsh.

Feb. 25, 1930, Maiden Creek.

Arrival, March 13 (1927) to March 28 (1920); average (12 years) March 19.

Departure, Sept. 9 (1917) to Dec. 7 (1924); average (10 years) Oct. 4.

I have seen sets of eggs from April 24 (1917) to Aug. 1 (1924) and young have been found in the nest in September.

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*)

Tolerably common summer resident.

Arrival, Feb. 23 (1928) to April 10 (1921); average (11 years) March 15.

Departure Sept. 26 (1926) to Nov. 20 (1920); average (14 years) Oct. 26.

Nests have been found in the Irish Mountains, near Fleetwood (May 2, 1908); at Pulpit Rock in the Blue Mountains near Lenhartsville (May 5, 1907); and at Pikeville, (May 8, 1909). (W. H. Liebelsperger).

MARSH HAWK (*Circus hudsonius*)

Resident. Rare in winter, uncommon and local in summer. Commonest during migration in Sept. and less so in April and May.

Arrival March 17 to April 23. Average (9 years) April 8.

Departure Oct. 2 (1926) to Nov. 28 (1929); average (8 years) Nov. 4.

I have but five winter records, Feb. 4 (1917). (A. P. Deeter), Dec. 24 (1922), Jan. 1 (1927), Dec. 23 (1928) and Feb. 3 (1929). (Poole).

The Marsh Hawk is frequently observed in early summer on and in the vicinity of the Blue Mountains, and there can be no doubt that it nests nearby, at least occasionally. Mr. W. H. Liebelsperger had a nest, evidently of this species, described to him by a farmer in the vicinity of Pine Swamp, in the Blue Mountains about 1913. Data on three sets of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection.

May 12, 1886, Tulpehocken Creek.

May 13, 1888, Antietam Creek.

May 17, 1889, Moselem.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (*Accipiter velox*)

Resident. Rare in winter, uncommon in summer, tolerably common in April and September; apparently decreasing.

The spring migration takes place between March 10 (1926) and May 11 (1917-1923), while the fall movement is mainly between Aug. 25 (1917) and Oct. 22 (1922).

I have examined 8 sets of eggs taken in all parts of the county, between May 15 (1886-1924) and June 7 (1910) in the collections of W. H. Liebelsperger and L. W. Mengel.

One of the most remarkable local ornithological phenomena is the migration of Sharp-shinned and other hawks along the Blue Ridge, forming the northwestern county

line. During September and October Sharp-shins literally swarm along the ridge on certain days, and are shot by the thousands every fall in Albany Township. "On Oct. 22, 1927, 90 were shot in a remarkable short time" by a party of gunners. (G. M. Sutton).

COOPER'S HAWK (*Accipiter cooperi*)

Resident. Rather common at all seasons except winter, when I have failed to record it four years out of 13. It is at least twice as common as the last species at present, and after the Sparrowhawk, is our commonest breeding hawk.

It nests in all parts of the county, often in rather small wood-lots.

Twenty-one sets of eggs collected locally range between April 17 (1887) and May 30 (1896), L. W. Mengel collection. W. H. Leibelsperger and the writer have also found a number of nests. On June 29, 1924, a nest containing four young, some of which were able to fly, was examined by H. Morris, B. Nunemacher and E. Poole at Mountain.

GOSHAWK (*Astus atricapillus atricapillus*)

Rare winter visitant occurring in some numbers about every ten years. Records from all sources follow:

Oct. 19, 1927 (four shot near Eckville). (G. M. Sutton).

Oct. 22, 1927 (16 shot at Eckville). (G. M. Sutton).

Nov. 1, 1927, adult female shot at Dauberville. (Guy Loose).

Nov. 20, 1927, adult female shot at Strausstown. (Poole).

Nov. 8, 1926, Trexlertown, shot by Oscar Confer.

Feb. 15, 1917, Pricetown. (E. Poole).

March 13, 1927, Charming Forge. (Morris and Poole).

Listed by Hofmann prior to 1890, and rated as "a rare winter visitor," by D. Frank Keller, 1890. There is a specimen in the collection of L. W. Mengel, taken in Albany Township, in 1886. This is apparently another species that migrates commonly along the Blue Mountain, as the Oct. 22 (1927) records would seem to indicate.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis borealis*)

Common winter resident, formerly a permanent resident.

Arrival Sept. 24 (1921) to Nov. 3 (1917); average 9 years, Oct. 12.

Departure March 27 (1927) to May 13 (1923); average 11 years, April 13.

This species is the common large hawk of the open meadow country, where it is a conspicuous object in the winter landscape, owing its comparative abundance to its hard-earned ability to correctly judge the range of the ever-ready shot-gun.

There is a set of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection, taken in Albany Township, May 11 (1886).

This is one of the species that is most common during the fall migration along the Blue Mountain. Thirty-two were shot by a party of gunners in a short time on Oct. 22, 1927, and at least 20 flew past in a little over an hour on Oct. 27, 1929.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus lineatus*)

A fairly common winter resident; formerly, at least, a permanent resident.

Arrival Aug. 15 (1924) to Nov. 18 (1928); average 11 years, Oct. 21.

Departure Feb. 28 (1925) to May 9 (1920); average 10 years, April 10.

Two local sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken in Albany Township, May 3 (1886), and near Evansville, May 29 (1897).

Wooded regions, usually in the neighborhood of streams, are the preferred haunts of this hawk. It is not half so abundant as the former species.

Two immature birds were noted at Moselem as early as Aug. 15 (1924).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (*Buteo platypterus*)

Fairly common summer resident.

Spring arrival between April 14 (1928) and April 27 (1929); average 12 years, April 23.

Charles Buck, of Fleetwood, shot one on March 29 (1927).

Departure Sept. 3 (1917) to Oct. 1 (1921); average 10 years, Sept. 12.

W. H. Leibelsperger found a set of eggs at Moselem, May 26 (1907), and another at Fleetwood, May 10 (1912).

A set in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken April 30 (1886).

S. D. Green and the writer found an occupied nest at Monocacy Hill, on May 26 (1917).

The dearth of records for late June and early July is

rather surprising in view of the comparative abundance of the Broadwing in the wooded hill regions during August.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (*Triorchis sancti-johannis*)

Rare winter visitant.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel observed one near Mohnnton, Jan. 6 (1918), and the writer has a single record, March 19 (1917).

Lee Readinger, of Fleetwood, shot one near that place, Nov. 3 (1926).

John F. Hofmann took several specimens in the county prior to 1890. Three of these are now in the Reading Museum, one in the black plumage.

GOLDEN EAGLE (*Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*)

A very rare straggler in late fall.

A fine adult specimen, taken at Brandywine Hill near Topton, on Oct. 25, 1920, is now in the Library at Kutztown. An immature bird shot at Finland, Bucks Co., near the Berks County line, in November, 1924, is in the Reading Museum.

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*)

An uncommon transient, apparently liable to occur at any season. All recent records follow:

March 16, 1916, Gibraltar, immature bird. (Poole).

May 8, 1917, Albany Township. (Mrs. G. H. Mengel).

May 7, 1918, Angelica Dam, immature bird. (Poole).

June 2, 1918, Neversink Mt., adult. (Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel).

May 21, 1921, Goughersville, adult. (Poole).

Jan. 13, 1924, Bernhart's Hill, immature bird. (Morris and Poole).

Sept. 12-14, 1924, (two), one an adult, Mt. Penn. (A. Ericksen, J. Hafer and E. Poole).

May 1, 1926, Moselem, young bird. (Poole).

Sept. 15, 1929, Maiden creek, immature. (A. Deeter, Nunemacher and Poole).

An immature example, shot near Adamstown in 1921 was in the Reading Museum.

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

DUCK HAWK (*Falco peregrinus anatum*)

A rather rare transient and casual winter visitant. All recent records follow:

March 24, 1923, Charming Forge. (Henderson and Poole).

March 31, 1929, Maiden creek. (Nunemacher and Poole).

April 2, 1930, Maiden creek. (Poole).

Sept. 19, 1929, Maiden creek. (Poole).

Oct. 3, 1929, Maiden creek. (Nunemacher and Poole).

Oct. 6, 1929, Blue Mountain. (Collected, L. Leinbach).

Oct. 22, 1927, Blue Mountain, two shot. (G. M. Sutton).

Dec. 25, 1926, Moselem. (Nunemacher and Poole).

PIGEON HAWK (*Falco columbarius columbarius*)

A rare transient, occurring in April and October. Casual in winter.

April 1, 1888, Albany Township, collection L. W. Mengel.

April 13, 1929, Wyomissing, collection Reading Museum.

April 25, 1925, Angelica Dam. (E. L. Poole).

April, 1925, Wyomissing, collection Reading Museum.

Oct. 2, 1929, Museum Park, Reading. (Poole).

Oct. 3, 1923, Maiden creek. (Poole).

Jan. 3, 1886, Wyomissing, collection L. W. Mengel.

It was listed by Hofmann in 1890. Two of his specimens are in the Reading Museum.

SPARROW HAWK (*Falco sparveria sparveria*)

A common resident in the more open country.

During the winter Sparrowhawks frequently visit the heart of Reading, where they prey on the English Sparrows. In 1918 a pair was seen daily from May 25 to June 15 about the steeple of Trinity Church. They appeared to have a nest in the tower, as they are reported to have done in the Colonial Trust building. Six sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken from April 30 (1894) to May 22 (1900).

OSPREY (*Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*)

A fairly common transient, usually seen about the larger ponds and streams.

Spring arrival, April 2 (1922) to April 27 (1919); average, 13 years, April 11.

Spring departure, April 27 (1919) to May 19 (1917); average, 12 years, May 8.

Fall arrival, July 7 (1922) to Sept. 9 (1923); average, 9 years, Aug. 17.

Fall departure, Sept. 25 (1927) to Oct. 20 (1928); average, 9 years, Oct. 5.

BARN OWL (*Tyto alba pratincola*)

Resident, fairly common in suitable localities, but secretive and easily overlooked.

While the Barn Owl usually resorts to cavities in large trees for shelter and to breed, it is occasionally found in old barns, belfries and cedar thickets, sometimes associating in the latter places with the Long-eared Owls.

It is a great pity that this beneficial owl is so persistently slaughtered by the misguided farmer and the average "man with a gun." Of 16 nests that I have known within the past ten years, at least nine were subsequently destroyed, either by the elements or man.

Young may be found in the nest apparently at any season. A nest at Montello, visited May 26 (1921) contained two eggs, although a brood of young had already been raised. Another in the Oley Valley visited June 30 (1925), contained at least five birds, several of which were well able to fly.

A large Buttonwood cut down near Evansville, Oct. 10, 1926, contained two young, one able to fly and the other approximately three weeks old, while a nest in the same neighborhood contained two healthy young on Jan. 12 (1927).

During the summer of 1926 a family occupied the belfry of St. Mark's Reformed Church in the City of Reading, much to the annoyance of the neighbors.

Sets of eggs in local collections were taken April 11 (1907) and April 29 (1885), the latter in the barn of the Pricetown Hotel.

LONG-EARED OWL (*Asio wilsonianus*)

Resident, rather rare and local, evidently more common formerly, resorting during the day time to cedar and hemlock groves. Of nine observations, six are between Nov. 7 (1920) and Dec. 21 (1924), three between Feb. 27 (1927) and March 11 (1923). Three seen on the latter date had apparently roosted in the same thicket for some time as fully a pint of pellets was collected beneath the site. This beneficial bird is frequently shot in the belief that it is the Great Horned Owl. I have a specimen taken at Adamstown, Dec. 3, (1920). Another was found at Flying Hill, Dec. 11 (1925) by A. G. Sternbergh. W. H. Liebelserger has

found it breeding at Virginsville, April 7 (1907); near Pricetown, April 16 (1911), and near Perryville, April 13 (1911). Data on sets of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection are:

Bethel Township, April 30, 1885.

Virginsville, May 17, 1889.

Greenawald, 1895. (S. S. Gruber).

SHORT-EARED OWL (*Asio flammeus*)

Rare transient in late fall, winter and early spring. One midsummer record. Two specimens in the Reading Museum were shot by gunners, one at Kirbyville, Nov. 23, (1925) and the other near Host, Nov. 25 of the same year.

From Feb. 20 to Feb. 26 (1927), four or five roosted in Charles Evans' Cemetery in Reading. (A. Deeter, Nunemacher, Rollman and Poole).

On July 27 (1929), I flushed one in a grass field at Maiden creek.

Specimens in the Mengel collection bear the following data:

Bethel Township, April 29, 1885.

Pricetown, April 28, 1885.

Jonas Stern and D. Frank Keller mentioned it as a winter visitant. (Warren "Birds of Pennsylvania") 1890.

Another was flushed at Maiden creek, Jan. 17 (1930). (Poole).

BARRED OWL (*Strix varia varia*)

Rare winter visitant, formerly bred.

Dec. 7, 1924, one flushed at Flying Hill. (M. Sternbergh and E. L. Poole).

Dec. 28, 1924, one along the Schuylkill at Naomi. (B. Nunemacher and C. Stott).

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken in Albany Township, May 16, 1885.

An egg, taken at Douglassville, April 10, 1888, is in the same collection.

SAW-WHET OWL (*Cryptoglaux acadica acadica*)

Rare resident.

Nov. 6, 1921, one heard and seen at Antietam. (B. Nunemacher).

Nov. 12, 1913, Albany Township. (W. H. Liebelsperger).

Nov. 23, 1919, one seen in a dense cedar woods in Rob-

eson Township had a white-footed mouse in its claws, although it was nearly noon. (J. Eshelman and E. Poole).

Jan. 30, 1920, one dozing in a scrub pine in Hessian Camp, within the city limits.

On April 30, 1922, one was observed in a small clump of hemlocks along the Blue Ridge, in Albany Township. From the condition of the ground below it had apparently been roosting there for some time. (M. S. and E. L. Poole).

On Dec. 25, 1926, at Moselem I found the remains of one that had been killed by some bird of prey.

A set of two eggs was taken at Mountain by John F. Hofmann prior to 1891 and is now in the L. W. Mengel collection.

Both birds were collected and are still in the Reading Museum.

SCREECH OWL (*Otus asio naevius*)

A common resident throughout the country. This is easily the commonest and most familiar of our owls. Of the two color phases the gray is only slightly commoner in this locality, the proportion being about 3 to 4. Screech Owls are frequently seen in Reading and about the city parks, where they take toll among the roosting sparrows at night and spend the day in some old tree or convenient crevice.

Local sets of eggs have been taken between April 4 (1888) and May 19 (1895). L. W. Mengel collection.

I have seen young just out of the nest, July 1 (1916).

GREAT HORNED OWL (*Bubo virginianus virginianus*)

Resident, usually rather rare and local, but apparently more generally distributed and frequently heard in winter.

On Sept. 1, 1921, while trapping Allegheny Cave Rats on "The Pinnacle," in Albany Township, one of these owls called repeatedly through the night. On a later trip to the same place, Sept. 23-24, 1922, one or two were heard at intervals through the night, one approaching to within a few feet of our camp. I suspect that they habitually hunt these rats which are quite common in the crevices of this point. One was heard hooting on Mt. Penn on the night of Feb. 4, 1925 (A. Ericksen and E. Poole).

Oswell T. Reinhart, of Mountain, writes that these owls are heard almost nightly during the winter along the base of the Blue Ridge at that point.

W. H. Liebelsperger saw a young Horned Owl in some heavy woodland in Oley Township on April 18, 1908, and a

hollow tree felled in the same place April 20, 1913, contained a young owl of this species and the bodies of two rabbits.

A pair of half-incubated eggs were taken from an old Hawk's nest in Albany Township by L. W. Mengel, April 1, 1888.

On April 30, 1929, S. Wishnieski shot two fully fledged young on Flying Hill, and the following day we saw one of the adults in the same locality.

SNOWY OWL (*Nyctea nyctea*)

A rare and irregular winter visitant. During November, 1926, at least seven were shot in Berks County, as follows:

Nov. 12, Lyons, Charles W. Smith.

Nov. 15, Kutztown, Robert Schlenker.

Nov. 18, near Kutztown, Frank Wiltrot.

Nov. 20, near Fleetwood, Peter Strunk.

"Late November," near Shartlesville, Adam Hiester.

"November," near Adamstown, George Michael, of Reading.

"Late November," in Kutztown, on the authority of Mr. Howard Dietrich, taxidermist of that place.

W. H. Liebelsperger saw a pair about Moselem Springs during a severe winter some 25 years ago.

Listed by J. F. Hofmann as occurring locally, 1890.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus americanus*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival May 5 (1922) to May 24 (1928). Average (12 years) May 12.

Departure Aug. 24 (1920) to Oct. 3 (1929). Average (10 years) Sept. 17.

Complete sets of eggs have been found as early as May 19 (1895, Mengel collection), and I have seen a nest containing three young about a week old as late as Aug. 23 (1922).

This is easily the commoner of our two cuckoos, outnumbering the black-billed species in the proportion of 2 to 1.

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)

Fairly common summer resident, varying considerably in numbers from year to year.

Arrival May 5 (1923) to May 19 (1917); average, 10 years, May 12.

Departure Aug. 31 (1924) to Oct. 14 (1922); average, six years, Sept. 14.

Four sets of eggs in the Mengel and Liebelsperger collections were taken between the dates of May 24 (1890) and June 5 (1889). On Aug. 2, 1925, I watched a Black-billed Cuckoo capture, kill and eat an immense caterpillar of the *Cecropia* moth. After 18 minutes of pounding, squeezing, shaking and passing back and forth between its mandibles, the contents were sufficiently reduced in volume to permit of its being swallowed, although still with difficulty. From the motions of the Cuckoo's throat, much of the "blood" of this caterpillar was apparently sucked up before the swallowing took place.

BELTED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle alcyon alcyon*)

Common summer resident, or frequent permanent resident during mild winters.

This is one of the most erratic birds in its arrival during the years that it is not known to winter, putting in an appearance anywhere from Feb. 3 (1924) to March 25 (1916). Its departure in fall is just as irregular, and may take place anywhere from Oct. 14 (1923) to Dec. 24 (1922). I have recorded it through January six years out of thirteen.

Data on eight sets of eggs in the Mengel collection, May 19 (1895) to June 15 (1890).

HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Dryobates villosus villosus*)

Fairly common resident, more frequently seen in winter. During the breeding season this Woodpecker retires to the deeper woodland, where it is far more often heard than seen. I have found it breeding at Grille, Monocacy Hill, Mohnnton, Mt. Penn and well up on the side of the Blue Mountain at Pulpit Rock, with well-grown young, June 16, 1917.

A set of eggs in the Mengel collection was taken June 2, 1892. It is about one-seventh as abundant as the following species.

DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Dryobates pubescens medianus*)

Common permanent resident, more abundant and familiar in winter.

Eggs, Willow Creek, June 15 1895 (Mengel collection). Antietam, June 11, 1901.

YELLOW-BILLED SAPSUCKER (*Sphyrapicus varius varius*)

Fairly common transient, occasional winter resident.

Spring arrival Mar. 30 (1918-1919) to April 11 (1923).
Average, 13 years, April 9.

Spring departure April 15 (1916) to May 21 (1928).
Average, 10 years, May 14.

Fall arrival Sept. 18 (1927) to Oct. 16 (1920). Average,
12 years, Oct. 1.

Fall departure, Oct. 1 (1928) to November 26 (1925).
Average, 10 years, Oct. 17.

In addition I have the following winter records:

Dec. 24, 1920.

Dec. 3, 1922 (B. Nunemacher).

Dec. 27, 1924.

Dec. 26, 1924.

Jan. 18, 24, and Feb. 7, 1925.

All winter records are from the Schuylkill River below
Reading.

NORTHERN PILEATED WOODPECKER (*Phloeotomus pileatus abieticola*)

A rare resident in the Blue Mountain region.

On May 28, 1922, I had an excellent view of one of
these fine birds along the base of the Blue Mountains in
Albany Township, after the bird had been supposedly extir-
pated from the county for at least 25 years. Subsequent in-
quiry among residents of the section resulted in the following
information: The species was unknown in that section until
about the date previously mentioned.

During the winter of 1923-24 William Frey frequently
saw individuals while going over his line of traps.

On Nov. 17, 1924, two were shot by a lawless character
near the same place. Since that time the following observa-
tions have come to my attention:

Dec. 29, 1925, William Frey; July 8, 1925, O. Reinhart,
and Sept. 26, 1925, William Snyder and O. Reinhart.

There is a specimen reputed to have been taken by John
Hofmann in Albany Township about 35 years ago, in the
Reading Museum.

D. Frank Keller reported it as very rare in the county at
the time of the publication of "Birds of Pennsylvania" (1890).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)

Fairly common summer resident; occasional resident.

Arrival April 27 (1924) to May 8 (1918). Average, 13
years, May 7.

Departure Sept. 9 (1923) to Oct. 14 (1922). Average,
10 years, Sept. 15.

During the winter of 1918-19 an individual wintered at Carsonia Park and was seen repeatedly through the winter until March 16 (A. Deeter).

Another was observed at Wyomissing, Jan. 17, 1921 (G. H. Mengel), and a third wintered near Blandon, winter of 1928-29 (Deeter, Poole).

While the Red-head is rather common in parts of the larger valleys, it is rarely seen in the more hilly and heavily wooded regions.

Eggs have been found from May 30 (1890) to June 20 (1895). Mengel collection.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*Centurus carolinus*)

A rare visitant. Probably more frequent formerly.

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

Specimens have been taken in the county as follows:

Bethel Township, May 17, 1885 (L. W. Mengel).

Wyomissing Creek, July 1, 1885 (L. W. Mengel).

Monocacy Hill, Nov. 16, 1890 (L. W. Mengel).

Friedensburg, Jan. 10, 1930 (S. Wishnieski). (The latter specimen was found freshly killed.)

NORTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus luteus*)

Abundant summer resident, local and uncommon in winter.

Arrival (in numbers) Feb. 21 (1925) to April 5 (1924). Average, 14 years, March 16.

Departure Oct. 1 (1916) to Dec. 24 (1922). Average, 13 years, Nov. 5.

During the severe winter of 1924-25, and again in 1926-27 and 1927-28, it was recorded repeatedly in sheltered places along the lower Schuylkill.

Eggs have been taken from May 17 (1888) to June 18 (1890). Mengel collection.

WHIPPOORWILL (*Antrostomus vociferus vociferus*)

Common summer resident in the heavily wooded hilly regions; rare or absent elsewhere.

My earliest arrival date is April 28 (1925); the latest fall record, Sept. 16 (1925) A. G. Sternbergh. Because of its local distribution few representative migration dates are available.

Eggs between May 22 (1884) and July 10 (1894) Liebelsperger and Mengel collections.

NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles minor minor*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival May 2 (1929) to May 21 (1925). Average, 14 years, May 9.

Departure Aug. 8 (1926) to Sept. 23 (1920). Average, 11 years, Sept. 4.

Because of its habit of nesting on slag roofs in the heart of the city, the Nighthawk is one of our best known native birds, although it is commonly mistaken for the Whippoorwill. While it is generally most active in the early morning and at dusk, it frequently hunts in midday, and it is not unusual to see one perched for hours throughout the day on the crossarm of a telegraph pole in a busy street.

Late in August flocks of 15 or 20 are sometimes noticed.

Eggs are laid from May 27 to July 16 (Liebelsperger and Mengel collections).

CHIMNEY SWIFT (*Chaetura pelagica*)

An abundant summer resident, and like the last species a familiar figure in our city bird-life.

Arrival April 12 (1924) to April 30 (1921). Average, 13 years, April 19.

Departure Sept. 12 (1924) to Oct. 19 (1917). Average, 12 years, Oct. 3.

Local sets of eggs have been found from June 1 to June 30 (L. W. Mengel collection).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*)

Fairly common summer resident, always most common in late August and early September, while the Jewelweed is in bloom.

Arrival May 6 (1924) to May 29 (1926). Average, 7 years, May 16.

Departure Aug. 28 (1921) to Sept. 25 (1927). Average, 10 years, Sept. 15.

Four sets of eggs in the Mengel collection range from June 20 (1894) to July (1895). A nest in the same collection was taken at 620 Penn Street, Reading, on Aug. 1, 1892, the day that the two young left the nest.

KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival Apr. 24 (1920) to May 18 (1917). Average, 13 years, May 5.

Departure Aug. 22 (1920) to Sept. 9 (1922). Average, 10 years, Aug. 27.

Local sets of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection range from May 19 (1890) to June 25 (1895).

CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus crinitus boreus*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival April 28 (1929) to May 11 (1919-1921). Average, 13 years, May 6.

Departure Aug. 22 (1917) to Sept. 17 (1922). Average, 11 years, Sept. 7.

Eggs from May 30 (1896) to Sept. 16 (1893) Mengel collection.

PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*)

Common summer resident, occasional in winter.

Arrival March 5 (1921) to March 30 (1924). Average, 13 years, March 22.

Departure Sept. 14 (1923) to Nov. 1 (1925). Average, 14 years, Oct. 9.

Evidently the same individual was seen on December 18, 1920, and Feb. 26, 1921, along the Tulpehocken Creek near Van Reed's paper mill. It subsisted mainly on honeysuckle berries and other small wild fruits.

This is one of the birds most frequently parasitized by the Cowbird.

Complete sets of eggs have been found from May 24 (1923) to June 25 (1894) Mengel collection.

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER (*Nuttallornis borealis*)

A rather rare transient, usually frequenting the most conspicuous perch available, whether a half-dead willow by the meadow brook or the stark skeleton of a dead chestnut on some second-growth mountainside.

All records follow:

Spring—

May 22, 1926, Wernersville.

May 23, 1926, Greenawalt (Nunemacher, Rollman and Poole).

May 26, 1929 (two), Pine Swamp.

May 30, 1925, Pine Swamp (A. Deeter and Poole).

May 31, 1924, Vinemont (Henderson and Poole).

June 3, 1928, Rattling Run (Nunemacher and Poole).

Fall—

Aug. 15, 1927, Moselem (specimen).

Aug. 22, 1917, Angelica Creek.

Aug. 28, 1922, Mt. Penn.

Aug. 28, 1929, Dauberville.

Sept. 4, 1927, Moselem (Nunemacher and Poole).

Sept. 5, 1926 (three), Moselem (Nunemacher, Rollman and Poole).

WOOD PEWEE (*Myiochanes virens*)

Common summer resident, one of the characteristic voices of the summer woodlands.

Arrival May 7 (1922) to May 25 (1917). Average, 12 years, May 18.

Departure Sept. 2 (1925) to Sept. 29 (1918, A. Deeter). Average, 9 years, Sept. 17.

Eleven sets of eggs range from June 1 (1893) to July 4 (1895) L. W. Mengel.

This is another frequent victim of the Cowbird.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*)

An uncommon transient, frequently overlooked because of its lateness in the spring and retiring habits. With us it is usually found in the woods, keeping well down in dense undergrowth, preferably of sweet birch, and is most readily located by its sweet, plaintive call, suggesting that of the Wood Pewee, but pitched higher, and slurred into one syllable.

On May 30, 1924, I saw at least a dozen and heard several others during a morning's walk along the woodland paths at the northern end of Mt. Penn.

Thirteen spring records between May 13 (1922) and June 3 (1928).

Seven fall dates between Aug. 18 (1922) and Sept. 8 (1920).

I took a specimen on May 22, 1920, and there is one in the L. W. Mengel collection taken May 22, 1887.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax virescens*)

Rare and local summer resident and rather rare transient. The difficulty of positively identifying this species in life unless it happens to be singing leaves the possibility of a relatively high percentage of errors in sight records. I have only eight of which I am at all confident.

Spring, May 7 (1922), May 14 (1917 and 1921), May 31 and June 7 (1924); the last, near White Bear, was probably breeding.

Fall, Aug. 29 (1924), Aug. 30 (1925), Sept. 5 (1926), and Sept. 11 (1927).

A specimen taken June 12, 1884, is in the L. W. Mengel collection and another taken May 28, 1883, is in the Philip Laurent collection.

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel have four June observations from the Hay Creek Valley: June 24, 1917; June 23, 1918; June 12, 1921, and June 22, 1922, although no nests from the county are known.

ALDER FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax trailli trailli*)

A very rare and local summer resident and transient in spring. Identifications unless singing are considered worthless. No specimens have been taken in the county.

On May 25, 1924, one was heard and seen under favorable conditions near and in an alder thicket beyond Albright College, in the city of Reading.

June 13 and 21, 1925, one "singing" in an alder swamp along the upper Pine Creek was almost doubtless breeding, although a nest was not found (A. Deeter and E. Poole).

Listed by J. F. Hofmann, 1890.

LEAST FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax minimus*)

Fairly common summer resident, more abundant during the spring migration. It nests over the entire county, which seems somewhat remarkable in view of the fact that in Lancaster and Chester counties it is considered a transient only and is quite rare in fall.

Arrival, April 22 (1916) to May 10 (1925). Average, 13 years, May 3.

Departure, Aug. 28 (1921-22) to Sept. 18 (1927). Average, 8 years, Sept. 4.

While I know of no eggs having been taken locally, I have frequently seen and heard it in June at such places as Alleghenyville (carrying nesting material, May 29, 1922); Gouglersville, Plough Church, Birdsboro (feeding four full-fledged young, June 9, 1917); Hopewell, and other localities along the Southern and Eastern borders of the county.

HORNED LARK (*Otocoris alpestris alpestris*)

A fairly common winter visitant, somewhat erratic and occasionally rare, but present at some time each year. This is distinctively a bird of the open country. In spring, just before its departure it sometimes whirls in flocks of hundreds over the freshly plowed fields, singing and indulging in the jealous bickerings incidental to courtship. Occasionally a flight song reminiscent of that of the famed Skylark is heard at such times.

My extreme dates are: Arrival, Oct. 21 (1921), and departure, April 13 (1920). Beyond this their erratic wanderings make any attempt at explanation of their movements difficult.

PRAIRIE HORNED LARK (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*)

A rare transient, so far as known. On July 4, 1923, Byron

Nunemacher and Henry Stott saw an individual of this subspecies near New Bethel Church, Albany Township.

On July 22, of the same year, a flock of about 25, mostly young of the year, were seen in a stubble-field near Mountain, Albany Township (J. Hendel, B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

Messrs. W. H. Liebelsperger and G. H. Mengel have noted individuals in early summer which may have been nesting.

I had an excellent observation of one with a flock of Pipits on March 24, 1929, and of a pair at Maidencreek, March 9, 1930.

BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*)

Common permanent resident, wintering in reduced numbers, or occasionally unrecorded all winter. A sudden and noticeable increase in the number of Jays takes place each year between April 23 and May 7, but the screaming flocks that fill the woods in September and October dwindle away quite gradually.

Sets of eggs are completed from May 10 to June 16.

CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos*)

A common permanent resident, abundant in winter when flocks of many thousands forage in the Great Valley. Seidel's Hill, in Bern Township, has been the site of a great crow roost for many years, drawing the birds from many miles in each direction. A complete albino was seen several times in August, 1924, near Bernhart's Reservoir (A. Ericksen and E. Poole).

FISH CROW (*Corvus ossifragus*)

Fairly common but local summer resident. A few individuals winter with the flocks of the common species, although they do not appear to associate during the summer.

There is a decided influx of Fish Crows between Feb. 22 (1925) and March 20 (1926), and they usually disappear by Sept. 5 (1926), although I have noted them in every month.

R. E. Henderson has noticed an individual wintering about West Lawn for several seasons.

A specimen was taken at Seidel's Hill, April 3, 1924, by H. Beechert, and is now in the Reading Museum collection.

Another was taken at Millmont, April 5, 1930, by S. Wishniewski.

While I have no personal knowledge of their nesting, during the nesting season Fish Crows are always to be seen

or heard about the northern slope of Mt. Penn, and I have no doubt that there is a nesting colony nearby.

Introduced Species

STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris*)

Introduced from Europe. An abundant permanent resident, first appearing in numbers in the county about 1915. Since the winter of 1923-28 they have shown a tendency to migrate with the Purple Grackles, with which they often roost.

BOBOLINK (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)

Fairly common transient, and uncommon summer resident; increasing in 1929.

Spring arrival, May 3 (1929) to May 15 (1921). Average, 8 years, May 9.

Fall departure Aug. 24 (1920) to Sept. 22 (1929). Average, 8 years, Sept. 7.

On June 14, 1924, I found a pair evidently nesting in a meadow near Douglassville, and B. Nunemacher and E. Rollman saw a male several times in July, 1926, at Moselem.

W. H. Liebelsperger has noticed it in June in the neighborhood of Fleetwood, and Nunemacher and Rollman found three pairs there June 22, 1927; also at Shartlesville on June 12.

In 1929 at least four pairs nested in a meadow near the Ontelaunee Dam.

COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater ater*)

A common summer resident. Occasional in winter.

Arrival March 13 (1921-24) to March 28 (1920). Average, 12 years, March 19.

Departure Sept. 23 (1927) to Nov. 12 (1922). Average, 7 years, Oct. 14.

A trio of these birds was observed several times during the winter of 1922-23 at Spring Valley. I saw them on Jan. 6 (1923).

During the late summer and fall the Cowbirds resort in large flocks to roosts which they occupy with both the Starlings and Grackles. The locations of these roosts are shifted from year to year. In recent years the Charles Evans Cemetery, the City Park and various sections of the city which abound in shade trees have served as roosting places, although usually under the protest of owners and frequenters of the places who have driven them away from each location in turn.

Eggs have been found locally in nests of the following species:

- Phoebe (5)
- Wood Pewee (2)
- Goldfinch (2)
- Song Sparrow (10)
- .. Vesper Sparrow (4)
- Chipping Sparrow (16)
- Field Sparrow (21)
- Indigo Bunting (8)
- Barn Swallow (2)
- Cliff Swallow (4)

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival March 4 (1923) to March 28 (1920). Average, 12 years, March 11.

They leave the nesting meadows from Aug. 10 (1923) to Aug. 25 (1917), but flocks have been observed in the county as late as Oct. 22 (1921-1922) and casuals until Nov. 26 (1925).

32 sets of eggs have been taken in the county from May 8 (1884) to June 14 (1890).

MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna magna*)

Resident, common in summer, local in winter; occasionally apparently absent at the latter season.

Meadowlarks return to the uplands between March 3 (1923) and March 20 (1926). Average, 13 years, March 10.

They leave the higher ground in numbers between Oct. 19 and Nov. 1, after which the larger flocks are seldom found elsewhere than in the Schuylkill lowlands.

Complete sets of eggs have been found between May 15 (1884) and June 24 (1894), L. W. Mengel collection.

ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival May 5 (1923) to May 17 (1924). Average, 13 years, May 10.

My latest record is Aug. 29 (1922).

Eight sets of eggs have been found between May 21 (1889) and June 8 (1890).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival May 2 (1925) to May 12 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 6.

Departure Aug. 16 (1925) to Sept. 9 (1922). Average, 11 years, Aug. 27.

G. H. Mengel reported an individual near Mohnton late in December, 1916. This bird was feeding on the frozen apples which remained on the trees.

Complete sets of eggs have been found between May 28 (1900) and June 7 (1887). L. W. Mengel.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus carolinus*)

Fairly common transient, occasional winter visitant.

Spring arrival March 8 (1929) to March 29 (1928). Average, 12 years, March 19.

Spring departure April 15 (1916) to May 15 (1921). Average, 12 years, May 1.

Earliest fall arrival Sept. 22 (1929).

Latest fall departure Dec. 2 (1922-1923).

A pair of Rusty Grackles was seen several times at Carsonia Park between Jan. 23 and Feb. 1 (1921). (A. P. Deeter, G. H. Mengel and E. L. Poole). Another was noted at Charming Forge, Feb. 10, 1929.

PURPLE GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula quiscula*)

Abundant summer resident, occasional in winter.

Arrival Feb. 24 (1922) to March 25 (1916). Average, 14 years, March 5.

Departure Oct. 2 (1916) to Nov. 9 (1918-19). Average, 13 years, Oct. 21.

Individuals have been noted Jan. 21 (1922) and Feb. 15 (1925).

Eggs in local collection range from April 26 (1906) to June 16 (1893).

BRONZED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula aeneas*)

Status not definitely known.

Opportunities of satisfactorily determining this subspecies in life are very rare. On March 14, 1917, I had an unusually close view in perfect light of several individuals, undoubtedly of this form, in City Park, Reading. I have frequently seen birds that I felt certain were Bronzed Grackles or intermediates closely approaching *aeneas*.

Four specimens in the Mengel collection were taken in the northern and western parts of the county as follows:

Pricetown, April 12, 1886.

Bethel Township, May 14, 1886.

Albany Township, April 25, 1887.

Albany Township, May 18, 1886.

EVENING GROSBEAK (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*)

Rare winter visitant. The following are all the local records with which I am familiar:

April 15-22, 1917, Birdsboro. Two birds were seen on the former and one on the latter date by Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel and A. P. and M. E. Deeter.

Dec. 26, 1919, one at Van Reed's Mill on the Tulpehocken Creek.

Feb. 22, 1920, 12 at Frush Valley (R. Albright).

Feb. 29, 1920, from 12 to 18 at Antietam (A. P. Deeter and G. H. Mengel).

March 7, 1920, two near Kissinger's Church, on the Tulpehocken (S. D. Green and E. L. Poole).

March 14, 1920, one above the Red Bridge on the Tulpehocken (E. L. Poole).

Jan. 1, 1930, one at Antietam (G. H. Mengel).

Jan. 5, 1930, two at Spring Valley (G. H. Mengel).

Jan. 25, 1930, one at Antietam (Poole).

Feb. 9, 1930, one at Birdsboro (B. Nunemacher).

PINE GROSBEAK (*Pinicola enucleator leucura*)

Rather rare winter visitant.

Conrad Roland reported a flock at Hessian Camp, Feb. 13, 1916.

Between Jan. 25 and March 3, 1922, a flock of at least ten remained about the "Hessian Camp," on the southern slope of Mt. Penn, where they were frequently seen by all the local observers. During the following winter (1923-24) a flock of eight remained at Antietam from Nov. 25 until Feb. 3, being seen on numerous occasions by many interested persons.

Jan. 1, 1930, two at High's Woods (S. Wishnieski and Poole).

Jan. 2, 1930, nine at Antietam (Poole).

Jan. 12, 1930, twelve at Antietam (Nunemacher and Poole).

Feb. 2, 1930, two at Birdsboro (Poole).

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus purpureus*)

Common transient and fairly common winter resident, but somewhat irregular and occasionally absent during the latter season.

Fall arrival Sept. 8 (1923) to Dec. 14 (1924). Average, 13 years, Oct. 6.

Spring departure May 3 (1925) to May 31 (1924). Average, 12 years, May 11.

AMERICAN CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra minor*)

Rare winter visitant; usually visiting groves of pine and hemlock, but occasionally seen feeding on apple trees or even weeds such as great ragweed. All the recent records follow:

Nov. 26 (1925) Birdsboro, B. Nunemacher, E. L. Poole.

Dec. 2 (1922), Mt. Penn (Hessian Camp) and Antietam, two flocks of 12 and 15 each, H. Morris and E. Poole.

Dec. 10 (1916), Jacksonwald (5 or 6). (A. Deeter, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel).

Jan. 17 (1923), Hessian Camp (7).

Jan. 23 (1923), one, with flocks of White-winged Crossbills at Antietam.

Feb. 23 (1920), Carsonia (9) B. Nunemacher.

Two specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken at Hessian Camp, Reading, April 16 (1886) and at Lenhartsville, Nov. 19 (1886).

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (*Loxia leucoptera*)

Rare winter visitant.

Jan. 18-25 (1920), a pair remained for a week at least about the hemlock grove at Antietam (G. H. Mengel and E. Poole).

Jan. 20-26 (1923), a large flock varying on different days from 30 to 100 or more were seen almost daily in the Antietam hemlocks. On the latter date I collected 3 out of the flock, and found them much emaciated.

Feb. 11 (1923), 5 or 6 at Gethsemane Cemetery (Mrs. G. H. Mengel).

Feb. 18 (1923), one seen, others heard, at Antietam.

REDPOLL (*Acanthis linaria linaria*)

Rare and irregular winter visitant, occasionally rather common. Recorded 4 years out of 13. Visitations occurred in 1917 (Dec. 31 to March 16); in 1920, when it was frequently recorded from Feb. 8 to March 14; a small flock was observed on March 10 (1923) and a pair March 10 (1928).

In this locality Redpolls appear to be decidedly partial to alders but also feed on seeds of the Black Birch, Evening Primrose and other weeds.

GOLDFINCH (*Spinus tristis tristis*)

Abundant resident, but occasionally scarce in winter. Eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken between May 23 (1894) and June 10 (1888). Two sets in the same collection contain Cowbirds' eggs.

PINE SISKIN (*Spinus pinus*)

An irregular winter visitant, sometimes very common, as in the winter of 1922-23, when flocks of 100 or more were frequently seen. Extreme dates are Oct. 8 (1921, B. Nunemacher) to May 14 (1923). (41 records). The name Pine Siskin is somewhat of a misnomer as far as this locality is concerned, as the seeds of the Birch are easily its favorite food, although those of the Hemlock, Alder, Goldenrod and several common weeds also furnish a large share of its food.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*)

A rare transient. One was seen in a flock of Horned Larks at Fleetwood, April 6, 1930 (Poole).

Introduced Species

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus domesticus*)

An abundant resident in all settled districts.

VESPER SPARROW (*Poocetes gramineus gramineus*)

Common summer resident, most abundant in the broad uplands of the Great Valley, where it is easily the commonest sparrow.

Arrival March 20 (1927) to April 3 (1917). Average, 11 years, March 26.

Departure Oct. 19 (1924) to Nov. 10 (1923). Average, 12 years, Oct. 26. Sets of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken from May 21 (1889) to June 22 (1888) although I have found fresh eggs as late as July 20 (1917).

Of 23 sets in the Mengel collection five contained Cowbirds' eggs.

SAVANNAH SPARROW (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*)

Common transient and rare and local summer resident.

Spring arrival March 17 (1923) to March 30 (1924). Average, 11 years, March 24.

Spring departure April 15 (1925) to May 13 (1928). Average, 12 years, April 30.

Fall migration more irregular, extreme dates of 45 observations Sept. 1 (1921) to Nov. 3 (1929).

During the summer of 1929 three or four pairs nested in the neighborhood of the Maiden Creek Dam. B. Nunemacher and the writer frequently saw them carrying food, and on July 14 found young just out of the nest and scarcely able to fly.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus Savannarum australis*)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival April 7 (1929) to April 30 (1926). Average, 12 years, April 29.

Departure (last observed) Sept. 27 (1924) to Oct. 17 (1927). Average, 6 years, Oct. 1.

Seven sets of eggs in local collections were taken from May 25 (1881-1891) to July 2 (1900). One nest contained a Cowbird's egg.

NELSON SPARROW (*Passerherbulus nelsoni nelsoni*)

A highly colored specimen of this striking sparrow was studied and sketched in detail on the edge of a marsh at Moselem, Oct. 18 (1924). After several minutes of unobstructed view under ideal light conditions it returned to the wet part of the marsh and I was unable to flush it. Judging from the impassable condition of this particular marsh it is perhaps not remarkable that this interesting sparrow has hitherto escaped observation in Southeastern Pennsylvania.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*)

Uncommon transient, occasionally rather common in spring.

May 17 and 18 (1917) brought an unparalleled visitation of White-crowned Sparrows to this locality. The lawns in City Park, Reading, were livened by numbers of these birds, and there were many others on the lawns along Hill Road. During other seasons this sparrow is usually solitary while with us, although small bands are occasionally met with.

Spring migration dates (18) are between May 5 (1929) and May 20 (1926).

Fall dates (14) are between Sept. 29 (1929) and Oct. 26 (1921).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)

Abundant transient, regular but local winter resident, and has occurred once in midsummer.

Fall arrival Sept. 18 (1921) to Oct. 28 (1916). Average, 15 years, Sept. 28.

Spring departure May 6 (1916) to May 22 (1917). Average, 13 years, May 14.

A singing male was heard and seen near Hamburg on June 23 and July 4 (1922). As this bird was in practically the same spot on both occasions it is possible that it had a mate and nest nearby.

TREE SPARROW (*Spizella monticola monticola*)

Common winter resident.

Fall arrival Oct. 20 (1929) to Dec. 10 (1916). Average, 14 years, Nov. 10.

Spring departure March 5 (1921) to April 24 (1926). Average, 13 years, March 29.

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina passerina*)

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival March 29 (1922) to April 16 (1916-27). Average, 14 years, April 8.

Departure Oct. 10 (1926) to November 17 (1917). Average, 13 years, Oct. 25.

Sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 16 (1885) and June 16 (1886). Of 24 sets, 10 contained Cowbird's eggs.

FIELD SPARROW (*Spizella pusilla pusilla*)

Abundant summer resident, occasional in winter.

Arrival March 13 (1921) to April 10 (1924). Average, 14 years, March 26.

Departure Oct. 21 (1923) to Nov. 30 (1924). Average, 14 years, Oct. 30.

Two were seen at Carsonia, Jan. 1 (1924) and one at Wyomissing, Jan. 2 (1928).

Sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 15 (1887) and July 14 (1885). Of 33 sets, 7 contained Cowbird's eggs.

JUNCO (*Junco hyemalis hyemalis*)

Abundant winter resident. Easily our most abundant winter bird.

Arrival Sept. 16 (1923) to Oct. 24 (1926). Average, 14 years, Oct. 8.

Departure March 29 (1921) to May 8 (1920). Average, 14 years, April 24.

SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia melodia*)

Resident, abundant in summer, common in winter. Eggs in the Mengel collection range from May 6 (1887) to July 8 (1889). Of 33 nests seven contained Cowbird's eggs.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW (*Melospiza lincolni lincolni*)

Rare transient. I have observed three under perfectly satisfactory conditions, one at Moselem and another at Bernhart's Reservoir, Sept. 18 (1927); also one at Wyomissing, Sept. 23 (1929). It doubtless occurs in spring but is overlooked because of its shyness.

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

There is a local specimen in the Mengel collection.

SWAMP SPARROW (*Melospiza georgiana*)

Common transient, rare in winter.

Spring arrival March 14 (1926) to April 22 (1916).

Average, 13 years, April 4.

Spring departure May 5 (1923) to May 21 (1928).

Average, 12 years, May 12.

Fall arrival Sept. 17 (1922) to Oct. 13 (1917-1920).

Average, 12 years, Oct. 3.

Fall departure Oct. 22 (1920-1922) to Nov. 13 (1926).

Average, 13 years, Oct. 27.

A straggler was noted Nov. 27 (1924) near Van Reed's Paper Mill. (S. Bright and E. Poole).

Another was seen at Moselem, Dec. 22 (1929). (Poole).

FOX SPARROW (*Passerella iliaca iliaca*)

Tolerably common transient. Occasional in winter.

Spring arrival Feb. 24 (1924) to March 20 (1927).

Average, 13 years, March 7.

Spring departure March 26 (1921-1925) to April 12 (1924). Average, 13 years, March 30.

Fall arrival Oct. 16 (1920-27) to Nov. 9 (1917).

Average, 13 years, Oct. 30.

Fall departure Nov. 9 (1919) to Nov. 26 (1925).

Average, 13 years, Nov. 16.

At least two stragglers were observed at Birdsboro, Dec. 25, 1925 and Jan. 1 and 23 (1926).

One in Museum Park, Reading, Dec. 30 (1929) and Jan. 1 (1930). (Poole).

TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus*)

Common summer resident, occasionally resident.

Arrival April 10 (1929) to April 29 (1916). Average, 14 years, April 22.

Departure Oct. 13 (1918) to Nov. 7 (1920). Average, 14 years, Oct. 18.

Winter records as follows: Tulpehocken Creek, Feb. 11 (1923) (found dead). (S. Bright).

Two birds wintered at Birdsboro during the severe winter of 1924-25. One or both were seen on Dec. 28, Feb. 15 and March 1. (A. Deeter, H. Morris, B. Nunemacher, E. Poole).

Twenty-six sets of eggs in the L. W. Mengel collection bears dates from May 21 (1889) to June 19 (1887).

CARDINAL (*Richmondia cardinalis cardinalis*)

Tolerably common resident, especially in the southern half of

the county, apparently slowly losing ground in the northern part, where its favorite swampy briar thickets are few and far between.

Four sets of eggs in local collections were taken between May 30 (1908) and June 20 (1887).

On May 12 (1917), S. D. Green and the writer found two nests each containing two recently hatched young along the Angelica Creek, and on June 14 (1924), I saw two young, just out of the nest near Douglassville.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (*Hedymeles ludovicianus*)

Tolerably common transient and local summer resident.

Arrival May 4 (1924-26) to May 17 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 8.

Departure Sept. 11 (1915) to Oct. 6 (1918). (A. Deeter). Average, 12 years, Sept. 20.

L. W. Mengel took a set of eggs at Lenhartsville, June 16, 1887.

Observations indicating probable breeding are Walnut-town, July 2, 3, 4, 1919. (M. E. Deeter).

Rittenhouse Gap, June 10 (1920). Temple, June 8 (1921) and July 11 (1925). (B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

Hay Creek, June 7, 1924 and July 4, 1925. (B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival May 6 (1929) to May 19 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 12.

Departure Sept. 16 (1928) to Oct. 10 (1926). Average, 12 years, Sept. 27.

Of 29 sets of eggs in the Mengel collection taken between May 21 (1897) and July 3 (1886), 7 contain cowbird's eggs.

I found a nest containing 3 fresh eggs in a great ragweed stalk as late as Aug. 24 (1920).

SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga erythromelas*)

Fairly common summer resident, breeding in woodlands throughout the county.

Arrival April 29 (1923) to May 19 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 10.

Departure Sept. 3 (1920) to Oct. 3 (1926). Average, 8 years, Sept. 26.

Eight sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between June 6 and June 18 (1884).

PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis subis*)

A tolerably common, but local summer resident. There are at least 20 colonies scattered through the county from Morgantown to Kempton and from Womelsdorf to the Oley Valley. Perhaps the largest is at Hamburg, where Mr. Wm. Grim has provided for considerably over a hundred pairs.

Arrival April 3 (1920) to April 19 (1924). Average, 13 years, April 11.

Departure July 24 (1921) to Aug. 23 (1925). (H. Morris); L. W. Mengel found fresh eggs at Elverson June 1 (1894).

CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon albifrons albifrons*)

Rather rare and local summer resident and uncommon transient. Within recent years I have been able to learn of but three colonies in the county; the largest, at Eckville, decreased from 50 nests in 1921 to 10 in 1925. A smaller colony of 13 nests was noted near Mountain in 1922.

Arrival April 14 (1922) to May 12 (1923). Average, 7 years, April 29.

Departure Aug. 5 (1923) to Sept. 28 (1929).

That the Cliff Swallow was formerly much more abundant is attested by the fact that L. W. Mengel found nests at Bernville, Stouchsburg, Fleetwood, Kutztown and along the Wyomissing Creek in 1884-86. Eggs between May 29 and June 27. Four nests contained Cowbird's eggs.

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo erythrogaster*)

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival April 7 (1922-1924) to April 22 (1917). Average 13 years, April 12.

Departure Aug. 24 (1922) to Sept. 13 (1925). Average, 11 years, Sept. 6.

Of 17 sets of eggs taken between May 25 (1891) and June 28 (1888) in the Mengel collection 1 contained a cowbird's egg.

TREE SWALLOW (*Iridoprocne bicolor*)

Tolerably common transient in spring, rare in fall.

Spring arrival April 7 (1922) to April 27 (1917). Average, 13 years, April 17.

Spring departure April 29 (1918) to May 30 (1928). Average, 10 years, May 13.

Fall dates between Aug. 9 (1929) and Oct. 6 (1929).

Several fall records of "Bank Swallows" may have been immature Tree Swallows.

BANK SWALLOW (*Riparia riparia riparia*)

Uncommon transient, supposed formerly resident, but now evidently entirely replaced by the following species.

Spring arrival April 18 (1923) to May 8 (1927). Average, 9 years, April 29.

Spring departure May 4 (1918) to June 2 (1929). Average, 7 years, May 10.

Fall transients have been noted July 21 (1929) to Aug. 27 (1920) (3 records).

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival April 10 (1925) to April 24 (1920). Average, 12 years, April 18.

Departure July 12 (1925) to July 31 (1929). Average, 6 years, July 23.

CEDAR WAXWING (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

Resident, extremely erratic; and often unrecorded during an entire winter (7 years out of 14).

Five sets of eggs in the Mengel collection from Albany Township were taken between June 10 (1886) and June 19 (1888).

NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius borealis*)

Uncommon winter visitant, frequently unrecorded, but occasionally quite common, as during the winter of 1921-22 when no less than 13 were observed (18 records).

Extreme dates: Oct. 30 (1921), (B. Nunemacher) to March 29 (1922).

MIGRANT SHRIKE (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*)

Rare transient. Late summer records only.

Aug. 24 (1922), Grill, (Nunemacher and Poole).

Aug. 29 (1924) near Fleetwood, (Nunemacher and Poole).

RED-EYED VIREO (*Vireo olivacea*)

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival April 28 (1925) to May 20 (1928). Average, 14 years, May 9.

Departure Sept. 12 (1920) to Oct. 10 (1926). Average, 12 years, Sept. 28.

The L. W. Mengel collections contain 10 sets of eggs taken June 10 (1885) to June 20 (1887). Three nests contained Cowbirds' eggs.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO (*Vireo philadelphica*)

Rare transient.

My only record is one carefully observed and studied intermittently for over an hour at Moselem, Sept. 18 (1927). Both the Warbling and Red-eyed Vireo and the Tennessee Warbler were present at the time, and at no time could I confuse the four (Poole).

WARBLING VIREO (*Vireo gilva gilva*)

Fairly common summer resident, apparently decreasing.

Arrival April 26 (1925) to May 17 (1924-1926).
Average, 13 years, May 8.

Departure Sept. 2 (1920) to Sept. 18 (1927). Average,
5 years, Sept. 9.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*Vireo flavifrons*)

Fairly common transient in spring, uncommon and local summer resident, apparently decreasing, and seldom observed after June.

Arrival May 3 ((1923) to May 22 (1917). Average, 12
years, May 10.

Departure, the latest fall record is Sept. 8 (1929).

Data on a set of eggs in the Mengel collection, Lenhartsville, June 17 (1887).

Its typical habitat is the wooded hillsides along Hay Creek, although it nested in the Museum Park, Reading, in 1929, young scarcely able to fly being seen on June 18.

SOLITARY VIREO (*Vireo solitarius solitarius*)

Fairly common transient.

Spring arrival April 9 (1922) to May 5 (1927). Average,
10 years, April 22.

Spring departure May 4 (1924) to May 23 (1926).
Average, 10 years, May 10.

Fall arrival Sept. 17 (1927) to Sept. 29 (1918-1929).
Average, 8 years, Sept. 25.

Fall departure. My latest record is Oct. 28 (1929); although B. Nunemacher has observed it as late as Nov. 1 (1925).

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus griseus*)

Uncommon and local summer resident, apparently diminishing in numbers. None were observed during the season of 1925, although all its former haunts were visited.

Arrival May 5 (1929) to May 21 (1921-1922). Average,
10 years, May 11.

Latest observation Sept. 7 (1919). (A. Deeter).

It has nested in recent years at Gouglersville, White Bear, near Douglassville and on the Nolde Estate in Cumru Township.

BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER (*Mniotilta varia*)

Common transient and fairly common summer resident in all the more heavily wooded regions. It doubtless breeds in all such parts of the county, from the Hay Creek Valley to the higher slopes of the Blue Ridge.

About the middle of July the Black and White Warbler leaves the heavier woodlands and becomes quite generally distributed throughout the more open sections.

Arrival April 21 (1916) to May 6 (1928). Average, 14 years, April 27.

Departure Sept. 3 (1922) to Oct. 13 (1917). Average, 13 years, Sept. 22.

WORM-EATING WARBLER (*Helminthos vermivorus*)

Locally common summer resident.

Arrival May 5 (1923) to May 15 (1927). Average, 11 years, May 10.

Latest fall date Sept. 3, 1917.

It breeds commonly in the well-wooded hillsides of the Allegheny, Hay Creek and most of the gulleys in the South Mountains, as well as locally on the Blue Ridge.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora pinus*)

Rather common but local summer resident.

Arrival May 6 (1922-1923) to May 13 (1921). Average, 10 years, May 8.

Departure Aug. 19 (1923) to Sept. 7 (1925). Average, 5 years, Aug. 28.

I have found it in June under conditions indicating breeding on Mt. Penn, at Birdsboro, White Bear, Adamstown, Gouglersville, Monocacy, at Rittenhouse Gap and in the Blue Mountain region.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)

Uncommon transient, doubtless a rare summer resident in the Blue Mountains. This bird is undoubtedly more regular than is commonly supposed, but its fondness for dense scrubby thickets and the early fall migration cause it to be overlooked.

Thirteen spring records are between May 5 (1922) and May 13 (1925-1928). Average, May 9.

Eleven fall records are between Aug. 3 (1925) and Sept. 8 (1923). Average, Aug. 20. (All since 1921).

On June 26, 1921, I saw a male in very likely breeding locality near Eckville, Albany Township, and on June 12 (1927). B. Nunemacher, E. Rollman and the writer saw another singing male on top of the Blue Mountain, near Shartlesville. Its actions indicated a nest nearby.

NASHVILLE WARBLER (*Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla*)

Fairly common transient. Local summer resident in the Blue Mountains.

Fourteen spring records between April 24 (1929) and May 20 (1916). Average arrival, 9 years, May 5.

Fourteen fall records between Aug. 28 (1922) and Oct. 10 (1926). Average, Sept. 20.

On June 27, 1925, I found a male in full song on top of the Blue Mountain near Shartlesville (elevation 1400 ft.).

In June, 1927, several were heard in the same locality and on June 3 (1928) two or three were heard along Rattling Run, in the same region. (Nunemacher and Poole).

TENNESSEE WARBLER (*Vermivora peregrina*)

Transient, rather rare in spring, sometimes common in fall.

Nine spring records are between May 8 (1919-1929) and May 22 (1917).

Seventeen fall records are between Sept. 8 (1923) and Sept. 28 (1924). Average, Sept. 20.

NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER (*Compsothlypis americana pusilla*)

Common transient.

Spring arrival April 29 (1925) to May 19 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 7.

Spring departure May 10 (1925) to May 27 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 16.

Fall arrival Sept. 9 (1922) to Sept. 26 (1926-29). Average, 11 years, Sept. 19.

Fall departure Sept. 11 (1927) to Oct. 7 (1917). Average, 11 years, Sept. 24.

CAPE MAY WARBLER (*Dendroica tigrina*)

Fairly common transient, (24 spring, 16 fall records).

Spring arrival May 4 (1923) to May 19 (1917). Average, 11 years, May 11.

Spring departure May 13 (1922) to May 26 (1917). Average, 10 years, May 16.

Fall arrival Aug. 25 (1929) to Sept. 29 (1917). Average, 9 years, Sept. 12.

Fall departure Sept. 17 (1922) to Oct. 10 (1929).
Average, 7 years, Sept. 27.

YELLOW WARBLER (*Dendroica aestiva aestiva*)

Common transient; fairly common summer resident, but decreasing in numbers.

Arrival April 25 (1920) to May 7 (1928). Average, 13 years, May 2.

Departure, latest fall record, Sept. 24 (1921), although it usually disappears by Aug. 26.

It nests usually in the picturesque old white willows that grow along streams throughout the country. L. W. Mengel found a set of fresh eggs, June 2 (1885) in Bethel Township.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (*Dendroica caerulescens caerulescens*)

Transient, common in spring (58 records); fairly common in fall (14 records).

Spring arrival May 1 (1926) to May 13 (1921). Average, 13 years, May 6.

Spring departure May 13 (1922-23) to May 30 (1924). Average, 14 years, May 18.

Fall dates, scattered between Aug. 28 (1922) and Oct. 16 (1921). Average, Sept. 25.

MYRTLE WARBLER (*Dendroica coronata coronata*)

Abundant transient, occasional in winter.

Spring arrival April 4 (1925) to April 27 (1918). Average, 14 years, April 19.

Spring departure May 6 (1916) to May 30 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 16.

Fall arrival Aug. 13 (1922) to Oct. 20 (1918). (A. Deeter). Average, 14 years, Sept. 27.

Fall departure Oct. 10 (1926) to Nov. 20 (1922). Average, 12 years, Oct. 31.

Winter records, Fritz's Island, Dec. 12, (1920). (S. Bright and E. Poole).

Gibraltar, Feb. 26 (1922). (B. Nunemacher).

Bernhart's, Feb. 27 (1922). (Poole).

Museum Park, Jan. 5 (1928). (Poole).

Birdsboro, Dec. 23 (1928). (A. Deeter).

Birdsboro, Jan. 13 (1929). (A. Nunemacher).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (*Dendroica magnolia*)

Common transient. Very rare summer resident in the Blue Mountains.

Spring arrival May 4 (1924 and 1929) to May 18 (1917).
Average, 13 years, May 8.

Spring departure May 14 (1923) to June 1 (1924).
Average, 13 years, May 24.

Fall arrival Aug. 28 (1921-1922) to Sept. 27 (1919).
Average, 12 years, Sept. 7.

Fall departure Sept. 14 (1922) to Oct. 3 (1926). Average,
12 years, Sept. 24.

On July 22 (1923) J. Hendel, B. Nunemacher and I saw one along the Blue Ridge in Albany Township. On June 28 (1924) I discovered at least three Magnolia Warblers in a grove of Hemlocks and White Pine, near Mountain, Albany Township. During visits made June 29 and Aug. 1 to the same place with R. Henderson, H. Morris, B. Nunemacher and A. Stone, the birds were seen, but efforts to locate a nest were fruitless.

On May 30 (1925) a male lingered singing in the same grove after the migrants had apparently left, but evidently could attract no mate, and did not remain. June 25 (1927) B. Nunemacher and E. Rollman found one apparently nesting at Eckville.

CERULEAN WARBLER (*Dendroica cerulea*)

A very rare transient. The only local record is one carefully identified in Hampden Park, Reading, May 20 (1928). (Nunemacher and Poole).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (*Dendroica pennsylvanica*)

Common summer resident, wherever sufficiently dense tangles of second growth are found; elsewhere a common transient.

Arrival April 26 (1925 B. Nunemacher) to May 15 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 6.

Departure Sept. 3 (1922) to Oct. 7 (1917). Average, 11 years, Sept. 15.

Perhaps the most favorable breeding locality of the Chestnut-sided Warbler is the scrub growth on the Blue Ridge. There it probably outnumbers all other species during the summer. Its abundance in the Hopewell hills and throughout the South Mountain region is remarkable in view of its reported rarity as a breeder in Chester (Burns) and Lancaster Co. (Beck).

Three sets of eggs in local collections were taken in Albany and Bethel Townships between June 2 (1885) to June 15 (1907).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER (*Dendroica castanea*)

Transient, somewhat irregular but often common.

Spring arrival May 7 (1922) to May 21 (1928). Average, 11 years, May 16.

Spring departure May 18 (1919) to June 1 (1924). Average, 11 years, May 21.

Seventeen fall dates range between Aug. 23 (1925) and Oct. 2 (1926). Average, Sept. 11.

BLACKPOLL WARBLER (*Dendroica striata*)

Common transient.

Spring arrival May 4 (1929) to May 19 (1917-1918). Average, 12 years, May 14.

Spring departure May 21 (1922) to June 13 (1926 A. Deeter). Average, 12 years, May 29.

Fall arrival Sept. 3 (1920) to Sept. 24 (1917). Average, 8 years, Sept. 14.

Fall departure Sept. 29 (1920) to Oct. 20 (1929) (Nov. 3, 1925 B. Nunemacher). Average, 9 years, Oct. 13.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (*Dendroica fusca*)

Fairly common transient in spring, uncommon in fall (42 spring dates, 10 fall).

Spring arrival April 25 (1925 B. Nunemacher) to May 20 (1916). Average, 13 years, May 9.

Spring departure May 10 (1925) to May 31 (1924). Average, 14 years, May 18.

Ten fall dates between Aug. 23 (1925) and Sept. 25 (1929).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (*Dendroica virens*)

Very common transient. Rather rare and local summer resident in the few remaining pine groves of the Blue Ridge in Albany Township.

Arrival April 26 (1925) (Nunemacher) to May 14 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 3.

Departure Sept. 22 (1916) to Oct. 20 (1929). Average, 13 years, Oct. 3.

L. W. Mengel found a nest containing 3 eggs in Bethel Township May 29 (1885).

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica vigorsii*)

Uncommon transient in spring.

Nine records between April 15 (1923, S. Bright) and May 1 (1926, Poole). Average, April 21.

During the spring of 1924 this species was rather common, and was noted on five occasions by different observers. On April 22, H. Morris saw 6 at Hessian Camp, Reading.

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

PALM WARBLER (*Dendroica palmarum palmarum*)

A rare transient. Three individuals were carefully observed during the remarkably late migration of 1917, on May 13 and 14, near the Tulpehocken and Wyomissing Creeks. These were seen under the most favorable conditions. There is a specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection taken at Greenwalt, April 22, 1887.

Two were seen at Moselem, Oct. 2 (1926 Poole) and one at the same place Sept. 29 (1929). (Nunemacher and Poole).

YELLOW PALM WARBLER (*Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea*)

Transient, common in spring (49 records), uncommon in fall (10 records).

Spring arrival April 5 (1924) to April 24 (1926). Average, 12 years, April 14.

Spring departure April 20 (1925) to May 14 (1917). Average, 13 years, April 30.

Fall records, between Oct. 6 (1929) and Nov. 1 (1925). Average, Oct. 19.

PRAIRIE WARBLER (*Dendroica discolor*)

Transient, uncommon in spring; rare in fall.

Five spring records are between May 4 (1924 Nunemacher and Poole) and May 19 (1921 Mrs. J. A. Nichols).

The only fall observation is Sept. 17 (1924 Nunemacher and Poole).

The specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection were taken in Albany Township, April 30 (1886).

Listed by Hofmann in 1890.

OVENBIRD (*Seiurus Aurocapillus*)

Abundant summer resident, breeding in woodlands throughout the county.

Arrival April 26 (1920) to May 6 (1917). Average, 13 years, May 2.

Departure Sept. 16 (1923) to Oct. 16 (1921). Average, 11 years, Sept. 25.

A crippled bird was observed at Gibraltar Nov. 3, 1925. (B. Nunemacher).

Seven sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 19 (1888) and June 15 (1886). Five contained Cowbirds' eggs.

I found a nest with two eggs near Windsor Furnace, June 16 (1917).

WATER-THRUSH (*Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis*)

Transient common in spring, irregular in fall.

Spring arrival April 22 (1917) to May 10 (1924). Average, 13 years, April 30.

Spring departure May 6 (1916) to May 27 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 16.

Fifteen fall records are between July 26 (1922, well identified) and Oct. 1 (1928). Average, Aug. 26.

LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH (*Seiurus motacilla*)

A fairly common, but local summer resident, to be sought wherever swift woodland streams tumble down the hillsides. Because of its local distribution, few representative migration data are at hand. The first arrivals appear to be the breeding birds which immediately return to their breeding grounds. Transients appear in other localities two or three weeks later. My extreme dates are April 18 (1924) and Aug. 15 (1925).

Two sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken at Fritz's Island, May 19 (1888) and in Caenarvon Township, June 4 (1888). I observed a family of young leaving the nest near Wernersville on June 4 (1921) and a pair feeding young recently out of the nest near Trap Rock, June 9, 1917.

That it breeds farther north than most of the Carolinian birds is evidenced by the fact that I have found it under breeding conditions near Hamburg, Eckville and Mountain in the Blue Mountains, as well as along Rattling Run on the north slope of the ridge.

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*)

Summer resident, rare and restricted to the marshy woodland streams in the extreme southeastern part of the county. Few migration data are available; extreme dates are May 15 (1920) to Aug. 20 (1920), 8 observations.

It has been noted under breeding conditions near Mohn-ton, (G. H. Mengel), near Trap Rock, along Hay Creek (1917), along the Sixpenny Creek (1924), and near Hopewell (1928-1929).

Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Mengel found a nest with young near Birdsboro, June 14, 1924.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (*Oporornis agilis*)

Irregular transient in fall, sometimes common, as in 1922, but unrecorded six years out of 14.

Fifteen observations are between Aug. 29 (1922) and Oct. 2 (1927). Average of all records Sept. 16. I took a specimen Sept. 2, 1925, and H. E. Newkirk on Sept. 25, 1928. There are no spring records.

MOURNING WARBLER (*Oporornis philadelphia*)

Rare transient.

Spring, five records.

Vinemont, May 31 (1924). (E. Poole).

Tulpehocken Creek, June 1 (1924). (2, S. Bright).

Moselem, May 30 (1926) (A. D., M. D., B. N., F. H., E. R., P.)

Antietam, May 28 (1927). (H. Morris).

Moselem, May 27 (1928). (Nunemacher, Rollman and Poole).

On July 23, 1922, B. Nunemacher and I saw three or four, probably a family of the year, in shrubbery along Moselem Creek.

MARYLAND YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlysis trichas brachydactyla*)

Common summer resident in marshy thickets throughout the county. It is also one of the common birds in the dry huckleberry thickets on top of the Blue Ridge.

Arrival April 27 (1929) to May 7 (1920-1921). Average, 14 years, May 3.

Departure Sept. 13 (1925) to Oct. 15 (1922). Average, 13 years, Sept. 30.

A male was observed at Blue Marsh, along the Tulpehocken on Dec. 18 (1920). (E. Poole).

A set of three eggs in the Mengel collection was taken in the Pricetown hills, May 22, 1887.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens virens*)

Fairly common summer resident. Nests throughout the county wherever sufficiently dense thickets are to be found.

Arrival May 6 (1923-1924) to May 19 (1917). Average, 12 years, May 11.

Representative departure dates are few, as the Chat is extremely secretive and seldom noted after the conclusion of its song period, late in July. The latest local record is Sept. 25. Thirty-three sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were

collected between May 20 (1896) and June 23 (1894). Two contained Cowbirds' eggs.

HOODED WARBLER (*Wilsonia citrina*)

Common summer resident along the Blue Ridge. Elsewhere a rather rare transient.

Extreme migration dates are May 3 (1909, G. H. Mengel) to Sept. 17 (1922 B. Nunemacher).

W. H. Liebelsperger and F. Bush found a nest containing four fresh eggs near Greenawalt, June 15, 1907. I have found it under breeding conditions along the length of the Blue Ridge from west of Strausstown to the Lehigh County Line. Near the latter place I have heard 15 singing males in the course of a morning's walk.

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Wilsonia pusilla pusilla*)

Transient, fairly common in spring, less regular, but occasionally common in fall, as in 1924.

Spring arrival May 7 (1922) to May 22 (1917-1920). Average, 12 years, May 13.

Spring departure May 13 (1922-1923) to May 27 (1917-1928). Average, 12 years, May 19.

Extreme fall dates (10 records) Aug. 28 (1929) to Sept. 24 (1922).

CANADIAN WARBLER (*Wilsonia canadensis*)

Fairly common transient. Locally common summer resident in the Blue Mountains.

Spring arrival May 7 (1922) to May 19 (1916-1917). Average, 13 years, May 12.

Spring departure May 13 (1922) to June 1 (1924). Average, 12 years, May 23.

Fall arrival Aug. 12 (1926) to Aug. 25 (1917). Average, 8 years, Aug. 17.

Fall departure Sept. 2 (1925) to Sept. 21 (1924). Average, 8 years, Sept. 7.

On June 27 (1925), I found the Canadian Warbler apparently nesting in the Blue Mountains near Shartlesville. (Elevation 900 feet).

During the summer of 1926 this warbler was found to be a common breeder along Rattling Run, on the north slope of the Blue Ridge, closely associated with the Hooded Warbler, the latter usually considered a bird of the Carolinian fauna.

REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*)

Abundant transient, local summer resident.

Arrival April 26 (1925) to May 13 (1917). Average,
13 years, Sept. 21.
14 years, May 5.

Departure Sept. 1 (1918) to Oct. 3 (1926). Average,

The Valley of Hay Creek is a typical breeding locality for this handsome and sprightly little Warbler. It has also bred within recent years at Hessian Camp, in the City of Reading, at Mohnton, near Temple and at Rittenhouse Gap.

Two sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken on May 27 (1893) along the Wyomissing Creek, and May 27 (1899) at Tuckerton.

PIPIT (*Anthus rubescens*)

Fairly common transient in spring. Rather rare in fall. Usually seen in large flocks, often of 200 or more.

Spring arrival Feb. 26 (1922) to March 30 (1920). Average, 8 years, March 22.

Spring departure April 4 (1925) to May 2 (1922). Average, 6 years, April 19.

Seven fall records, between Sept. 29 (1929) and Oct. 23 (1929).

MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*)

Rare straggler from the south.

The only recent observation is one seen at Cedar Top, June 1 (1919) by G. H. Mengel.

There is a specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection taken in Albany Township, June 2 (1888).

Listed by John F. Hofmann in 1870.

CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*)

Abundant summer resident, occasionally resident.

Arrival April 26 (1920) to May 4 (1916-1922). Average, 13 years, May 2.

Departure Sept. 19 (1915) to Nov. 6 (1920). Average, 14 years, Oct. 4.

Casual Records—A pair remained in a thicket near Neversink until Dec. 30, 1922 (Morris, Nunemacher and Poole). Another was observed at Gibraltar, Jan. 5 (1924), and two were noted at Birdsboro, Nov. 26 (1925), at least one remaining until Dec. 25.

Forty-five sets of eggs taken locally range from May 14 (1886) and June 28 (1885).

BROWN THRASHER (*Toxostoma rufum*)

Fairly common summer resident.

Arrival April 10 (1921) to May 1 (1926-28). Average, 13 years, April 23.

Departure Sept. 6 (1919) to Oct. 3 (1926). Average, 12 years, Sept. 22.

Thirty-six local sets of eggs range from May 17 (1888) to June 16 (1885-1888). (L. W. Mengel collection).

CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus*)

Resident in the southern third of the county, erratic in all localities except near Birdsboro where it has apparently been established for many years. During the severe winter of 1917-18 the Carolina Wren was practically exterminated in the county, and was not recorded for three or four years. Since 1921, however, it is evidently increasing, and spreading again over the southern part of the county. It is one of the most persistent singers, and its spirited carol is to be heard throughout the year.

No local nests have been discovered, to my knowledge.

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon aedon*)

Abundant summer resident.

Arrival April 14 (1922-1929) to May 2 (1928). Average, 14 years, April 23.

Departure Sept. 24 (1917-1921) to Oct. 14 (1923). Average, 11 years, Oct. 3.

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 21 (1885) and June 20 (1890).

WINTER WREN (*Nannus hiemalis hiemalis*)

Fairly common transient, uncommon winter resident, somewhat erratic, unnoticed during the winters of 1919-1920 and 1920-1921; but recorded as often as 14 times during the winter of 1922-1923.

Arrival Sept. 21 (1925) to Nov. 1 (1919). Average, 13 years, Oct. 7.

Departure April 15 (1916) to May 3 (1923). Average, 10 years, April 25.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Telmatodytes palustris palustris*)

Uncommon transient, and very rare and local summer resident, usually occurring in cattail marshes.

Three spring records between April 28 (1923) Moselem, (S. Bright and E. Poole) and May 7 (1922) Greenawalt (B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

Three fall observations between Sept. 19 (1925) Moselem (E. Poole) and Sept. 28 (1924) Carsonia (H. Morris).

Several (at least two pairs) spent the summer of 1928 in a marsh at Moselem, where they probably nested. (Nunemacher and Rollman).

BROWN CREEPER (*Certhia familiaris americana*)

Fairly common winter visitant.

Arrival Sept. 20 (1925) to Nov. 1 (1919). Average, 12 years, Oct. 13.

Departure April 10 (1921) to April 28 (1925). Average, 13 years, April 21.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta carolinensis carolinensis*)

Resident, common in winter, uncommon in summer.

There is a decided decrease in the number of White-breasted Nuthatches during April (4-26) and a corresponding, but more gradual increase from late July until October.

I have seen family groups consisting of parents and young of the year as early as May 29 (Maidencreek, 1921).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta canadensis*)

An irregular transient and winter visitant. The status of this interesting little Nuthatch is hard to define. It has been recorded in Berks County during every month but July. Altogether unrecorded four years out of fourteen, it may put in an appearance anywhere from Aug. 26 (1921) to Nov. 15 (1924) and has wintered, in numbers, in the Pines on the southern slope of Mt. Penn, three years out of the last ten. My latest spring date is May 22, but W. H. Liebelsperger observed it on one of the spurs of the Blue Mountain, in Albany Township on June 6, 1907. It may possibly breed occasionally in that section. Spring departure dates are May 13 (1922-25) to May 22 (1917) 6-year average, May 15.

TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus bicolor*)

Rather rare and local resident.

A small colony lived along the Upper Tulpehocken, near Blue Marsh until the winter of 1922, and a pair evidently nested near White Bear in 1922, although no nest was found.

Stragglers appear at intervals over the southern half of the county, but the only localities where they are seen consistently are Hopewell, White Bear and Birdsboro. I have 45 records, covering every month of the year.

CHICKADEE (*Penthestes atricapillus atricapillus*)

Resident, irregular, but usually common in winter. (Rare 1 year out of 5). Uncommon and local in summer.

It breeds regularly in the Pine Swamp, Albany Township, and has been seen during the breeding season on Mt. Penn, and at several places scattered through the county, such as Wernersville, Hay Creek, Sixpenny Creek, Flying Hill, Rattling Run and Gibraltar.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (*Regulus satrapa satrapa*)

Fairly common but local winter resident, more abundant transient.

Arrival Oct. 3 (1915-1925) to Nov. 1 (1919). Average, 13 years, Oct. 14.

Departure March 13 (1921) to May 4 (1924). Average, 13 years, April 13.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (*Corthilis calendula calendula*)

Usually abundant transient, occasional in winter. (Rare or unrecorded in fall 2 years out of 14.

Spring arrival March 28 (1929) to April 19 (1916-1924). Average, 14 years, April 10.

Spring departure April 29 (1928) to May 19 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 9.

Fall arrival Sept. 17 (1927) to Oct. 8 (1918). Average, 11 years, Sept. 29.

Fall departure Oct. 8 (1918) to Nov. 15 (1925 H. Morris). Average, 11 years, Oct. 26.

Winter observations are Dec. 1, 1929; Dec. 2, 1922; Dec. 8, 1929; Dec. 25, 1925; Dec. 27, 28, 1924; Jan. 7-13, 1930, and Feb. 26, 1921.

BLUE-GREY GNATCATCHER (*Polioptila caerulea caerulea*)

Rare straggler.

The only recent records are one seen near Pleasantville, April 25 (1920), (G. H. Mengel); one observed very carefully near Mohnton, May 3 (1924), (E. Poole); and a third at White Bear, April 24 (1927), (B. Nunemacher and E. Poole).

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

WOOD THRUSH (*Hylocichla mustelina*)

Common summer resident.

Arrival April 25 (1920) to May 8 (1928). Average, 14 years, May 2.

Departure Sept. 8 (1929) to Sept. 28 (1924).

Thirty-one sets of eggs collected locally range from

May 19 (1887) to June 16 (1886).

VEERY, WILSON'S THRUSH (*Hylocichla fuscescens fuscescens*)

Transient, common in spring, very rare in fall (34 spring records).

Spring arrival May 3 (1924) to May 19 (1917). Average, 14 years, May 10.

Spring departure May 12 (1922) to May 27 (1928). Average, 11 years, May 20.

Fall, Sept. 16 (1923), (B. Nunemacher). Sept. 4 and 5 (1927). (Nunemacher and Poole).

A singing male was recorded at Birdsboro on June 2 and 9 (1917). (G. H. Mengel and E. L. Poole).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (*Hylocichla aliciae aliciae*)

Uncommon transient in spring, rare in fall.

Sixteen spring records between May 11 (1924) and May 29 (1921 and 1927).

Two fall sight records, Sept. 28 (1924) and Oct. 2 (1920).

A specimen was found dead near the Reading Museum Sept. 20, 1926 (E. Newkirk).

OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*)

Common transient. (43 spring, 19 fall records).

Spring arrival May 3 (1925) to May 19 (1917). Average, 13 years, May 9.

Spring departure May 13 (1922) to May 31 (1924). Average, 11 years, May 21.

Fall arrival Sept. 7 (1924) to Sept. 27 (1919). Average, 7 years, Sept. 20.

Fall departure Sept. 21 (1924) to Oct. 8 (1918 A. Deeter). Average, 8 years, Oct. 1.

HERMIT THRUSH (*Hylocichla guttata pallasi*)

common transient; probably regular but local winter resident in sheltered spots.

Fall arrival Oct. 9 (1927) to Nov. 3 (1926). Average, 11 years, Oct. 18.

Departure April 20 (1918) to May 7 (1922). Average, 11 years, April 29.

I have 31 observations during December, January, February and March in the past 8 winters, so that it is difficult to determine bona fide spring arrivals with certainty.

ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius migratorius*)

Abundant summer resident; occasionally resident in sheltered locations.

Arrival Feb. 4 (1923, large flock) to March 25 (1916). Average, 14 years, Feb. 24.

Departure Oct. 23 (1915) to Dec. 28 (1924). Average, 13 years, Nov. 19.

Midwinter records are Antietam Jan. 21, 1923 (21); Carsonia, Jan. 2 1926 (1); and Antietam (3) and Flying Hill (6) Jan. 17, 1926; Charming Forge Jan. 15, 1928; Antietam, Jan. 25, 1930.

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between May 18 (1885) and June 10 (1888).

BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis sialis*)

Fairly common summer resident, but decreasing; wintering in small numbers at least 5 years out of the last 14. During years when not known to be resident it may put in an appearance anywhere from Feb. 15 (1925) to March 14 (1920) and in 1916 my latest record was Oct. 28.

I have 5 January records in the last 14 years, 9 December and 10 February.

Thirteen sets of eggs in the Mengel collection were taken between April 25 (1884) and May 15 (1887).

A LIST OF SPECIES REPORTED AS OCCURRING IN
BERKS COUNTY PRIOR TO 1900, BUT LACKING
RECENT CONFIRMATION

LAUGHING GULL (*Larus atricilla*)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

GULL-BILLED TERN (*Gelochelidon niloticas aranea*)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

ROYAL TERN (*Sterna maxima*)

Henry B. Graves recorded the capture of a specimen in Berks County in Sept., 1897. (Warren B. of Pa.)

FORSTER'S TERN (*Sterna forsteri*)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

ARCTIC TERN (*Sterna paradisaea*)

Reported as casual in Berks County, D. Frank Keller. (Warren, B. of Pa.) 1890.

ROSEATE TERN (*Sterna dougalli*)

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken on the Schuylkill near Tuckerton, Aug. 17, 1895, by C. H. Shearer.

LEAST TERN (*Sterna antillarum*)

A specimen taken by C. H. Shearer, along the Schuylkill River near Reading, Aug. 11, 1892, is now in the Mengel collection.

BRANT (*Branta bernicla hrota*)

"D. Frank Keller, of Reading, Pa., has a specimen which was captured in Berks County." (Warren, B. of Pa.)

LOUISIANA HERON (*Hydranassa tricolor ruficollis*)

Reported by D. Frank Keller, of Reading. (Warren, B. of Pa.)

SNOWY EGRET (*Egretta thula thula*)

Listed by Hoffman, 1890; also reported by D. Frank Keller (Warren B. of Pa.)

KING RAIL (*Rallus elegans*)

Recorded from Berks County by D. Frank Keller (Warren, B. of Pa.)

L. W. Mengel took a set of eggs at Blue Marsh along the Tulpehocken, June 8, 1900.

STILT SANDPIPER (*Micropalama himantopus*)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

KNOT (*Calidris canutus*)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW (*Numenius americanus*)

"Mr. D. Frank Keller, of Reading, says it has been taken in Berks County." (Warren, B. of Pa.)

PIPING PLOVER (*Charadrius melodus*)

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken near "The Pinnacle," June 29, 1886.

WILSON'S PLOVER (*Pagolla wilsonia wilsonia*)

Listed by Hofmann, 1890.

There are three specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection labeled as follows: (2) Sept. 26, 1886, Pricetown Hills Aug. 2, 1888, Fritz's Island.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres morinella*)

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken by C. H. Shearer, Sept. 30, 1889, near Tuckerton.

PASSENGER PIGEON (*Ectopistes migratorius*)

Prior to 1880 or 1881 the Passenger Pigeons resorted for several weeks each fall to the southwestern side of Never-sink Mountain, where the roosting multitudes spread from the site of the Highland House to the Tuberculosis Sanatorium. During flights the local gunners would take up a position on the open slopes of the mountain below and fire until their guns became hot. A large rock known as "Pigeon Rock," still a landmark in the middle of the Schuylkill near that point, was so named from the fact that pigeons resorted to it to bathe and drink.

(Conv. with Messrs. Adam Leader and Richard Lawrence).

HAWK OWL (*Surnia ulula caparoch*)

There is a specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection taken in Albany Township, Jan. 26 (1887.)

NORTHERN RAVEN (*Corvus corax principalis*)

Listed as a very rare straggler by D. Frank Keller (Warren, B. of Pa.)

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)

Listed by J. F. Hofmann, 1890.

GREATER REDPOLL (*Acanthis linaria rostrata*)

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken on Mt. Penn, Jan. 17 (1888).

SNOW BUNTING (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*)

Listed by J. F. Hofmann, 1890.

W. H. Liebelsperger saw a flock at Moselem Springs many years ago, and there are ten specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection taken between 1887 and 1890.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW (*Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi*)

Listed by John F. Hofmann, 1890.

DICKCISSEL (*Spiza americana*)

Listed by John F. Hofmann.

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra rubra*)

Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken on Mt. lowering data: Blue Marsh, June 5 (1887) and Albany Township, June 17 (1886).

Also listed by Hofmann, 1890.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (*Vermivora celata celata*)

A specimen in the L. W. Mengel collection was taken at Douglassville, Oct. 22 (1889).

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica dominica*)

The Mengel collection contains a specimen taken on Never-sink Mountain, Sept. 26 (1888).

AUDUBON'S WARBLER (*Dendroica auduboni auduboni*)

A specimen in the Mengel collection was taken at Yost's Island, Oct. 14 (1888).

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH (*Sitta pusilla*)

There is a specimen in the Mengel collection taken at Boyertown, Sept. 6 (1894).

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (*Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis*)

Two specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection bear the following data: Penn, April 7 (1891) and at Klapperthal, April 15 (1892).

ERRATA

On Page 70 under Summer Tanager (*Pirango rubra rubra*) read "Two specimens in the L. W. Mengel collection bear the following data: Blue Marsh, June 5 (1887) and Albany Township, June 17 (1886). Also listed by Hofmann, 1890."

Under Carolina Chickadee (*Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis*) read "Two specimens in the Mengel collection were taken on Mt. Penn, April 7, 1891 and at Klapperthal, April 15, 1892."

ADDENDA

During the late spring and summer of 1930, one new species was added to the local list and the known status of several others were changed as follows:

HUDSONIAN CURLEW (*Numenius hudsonicus*)

Very rare transient or casual. On May 25, 1930, a flock of ten, led by a Black-bellied Plover, circled several times over the marsh at the head of Lake Ontelaunee, but did not land. (E. Poole).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (*Querquedula discors*)

Two families were raised on Lake Ontelaunee in 1930; one of twelve and another of nine. The former were seen on almost every visit to the upper part of the lake after their discovery on June 15. On July 27th both broods were in flight. This is apparently the first Pennsylvania breeding record for this species. (See P. 11 for previous status.)

KING RAIL (*Rallus elegans*)

A rare summer resident. One was seen repeatedly during June and July, 1930, on and about an island at the head of Lake Ontelaunee (A. P. and M. E. Deeter, F. Hergesheimer, Poole). (See P. 68.)

AMERICAN COOT (*Fulica americana*)

One spent the summer of 1930 at Lake Ontelaunee. (See P. 16 for previous status.)

DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus griseus griseus*)

One seen at Maiden creek, June 1, 1930 (Poole). It must therefore be considered a rare transient both spring and fall. (See P. 47.)

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (*Pisobia melanotos*)

Present at Maiden creek from April 6 to May 15, 1930, as many as 20 at a time, (On April 27). (See P. 17.)

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*Pisobia fuscicollis*)

One at Maiden creek on May 20 (1930), the first spring record. (Poole). (See P. 17.)

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER (*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*)

A flock of twelve visited the marshy shores of Lake Ontelaunee on May 15, 1930, three remaining until June 1st. (Nunemacher and Poole.) (See P. 18.)

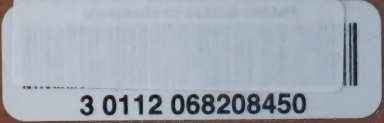
RUDDY TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres morinella*)

Recorded at Lake Ontelaunee, May 22 and 31, 1930 (Poole), the first since Shearer's specimen in 1889. (See P. 69.)

NELSON'S SPARROW (*Passerherbubus nelsoni nelsoni*)

An individual of this species was seen under very favorable conditions in the Maiden creek Marsh, June 8, 1930. This is apparently the first published spring record of this seldom-recorded species in eastern Pennsylvania. It was followed for three-quarters of an hour, during which time I had several excellent views. (See P. 46.)





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